

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXX.]

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BIRTH.

At 21, Old Bailey, Hongkong, the wife of Mr. FRANK J. V. JORGE, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On December 1st, at Shanghai, UMPHREY R. U. OTTRELL DORMER, R.N., to MARY ISABELLA MOLLOY, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Molloy, Shanghai.

On the 7th December, by special licence, at Hongkong, CHRISTOPHER BERKELEY MITCHELL, Captain-Superintendent of Police, Kulang-u, Amoy, to MAUD AGATHA, widow of the late E. W. DE TUNZELMANN, Surgeon, R.N.

DEATH.

On December 3rd, in London, JEAN JARDINE LANDALE, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. DAVID LANDALE, aged 11 months

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD, C.T.
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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of the 12th ultimo arrived on the 9th instant.

The Siberian Mails of the 17th, 19th, and 20th ultimo arrived on the 10th instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Several Chinese merchants of Shanghai have lately opened branches at Dairen.

Mr. E. M. Hobart-Hampden has been appointed Japanese Secretary to the British Legation at Tokyo.

A report is current that Count Wolff, Metternich zur Gracht, German Ambassador in London, is shortly to be succeeded by Baron Mumm von Schwarzenstein, Ambassador at Tokyo and formerly Minister at Peking.

Japan is sending about 20,000 exhibits to the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition to be opened in London next year.

The death is reported of Mr. A. W. Harvey Bellingham, M.I.C.E., Engineer of the British Municipal Council, Tientsin.

The Prince Regent has approved a memorial by H. E. Chang Jên-chün, Viceroy at Nanking, for permission to erect a Provincial Assembly House in Nanking at a cost of Tls. 120,000.

The Viceroy of Fokien has, upon the petition of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Indo-China, requested the Waiwupu to negotiate with the French Minister in Peking for the abolition of the poll-tax on the Chinese there.

The *Japan Chronicle* states that the Governors of Hyogo and Osaka and the head officials of seventeen Government offices in Kobe and Osaka have subscribed for a presentation Satsuma tea service to Mr. Henry Bonar, Consul-General at Kobe, as a token of respect and esteem, on the occasion of his transference to the corresponding post at Seoul.

We notice that a telegram translated by the Shanghai papers from a Chinese journal in that port says it is learnt that the Hongkong Government has granted to the American firm which recently applied for it a monopoly of the wireless telegraph business in the port for twenty-five years. This announcement is premature: the Government still has the application under consideration.

We observe that Mr. F. Cloud, the American Consul at Mukden, who according to the Tokyo telegram we published this week has been recalled, was last week at Shanghai, and was to have left by the *Korea* for America on Friday last. According to a paragraph in a Shanghai contemporary Mr. Cloud has been transferred to the State Department at Washington. Apparently this transfer was directed before the publication of the report by Mr. Cloud which has been so much criticised in Japan.

Bishop T. A. Hendrick, of the diocese of Cebu, died last week of cholera. As many as sixty cases of cholera were reported in Cebu on November 30th, and of these 52 were fatal. A Manila contemporary says:—"It is believed that the wells on the other side of the city have become infected and steps have been taken to cleanse and thoroughly disinfect them. This is the third time in a month that the disease has appeared in this sudden and virulent form, gathering in such numbers daily." The latest reports show the epidemic to have subsided as suddenly as it came.

Father Algue, the Director of the Manila Observatory, in a lecture last week, told how the work of the Jesuits, who have been foremost in that class of studies, had commenced in the Philippines in a very humble way in 1865, by Padre Faura, the inventor of one of the most modern barometers in existence. Speaking of the work that has been accomplished within the walls of the Manila institution, he mentioned the fact that the Jesuits there hold the world's record for the measurement of clouds at high altitudes, cirrus clouds having been measured in 1897 at an altitude of over 67,000 feet. He told how the violent storms known as baguios are formed, of their destructiveness, of the number in a given time, 594 having occurred since 1880 up to date, and of the time they generally visit the archipelago.

A great interchange of posts and many promotions in the Japanese Navy were announced on the 1st December. Six new vice-admirals and fourteen rear-admirals have been created. Admiral Togo has been appointed Naval Councillor, Vice-Admiral Kamimura Commander-in-Chief of the First Fleet, Vice-Admiral Shimamura Commander-in-Chief of the Second Fleet, Vice-Admiral Ijuin Chief of the Admiralty, Vice-Admiral Uriu Commander-in-Chief at the Yokosuka Naval Station, Vice-Admiral Dewa Commander-in-Chief at the Sasebo Naval Station, and Vice-Admiral Kato Commander-in-Chief at the Kure Naval Station.

The annual meeting of the Perak Sugar Company took place at Shanghai last week. At the close of the meeting Mr. W. D. Little proposed and Mr. R. H. Gore-Booth seconded the following resolution:—"That out of the amount carried forward the sum of Tls. 2,000 be appropriated for the presentation to Mr. W. V. Drummond of a testimonial, in whatever form he may choose, this as a mark of the shareholders' recognition of his long and valuable services to the company." Mr. Little referred in complimentary terms to Mr. Drummond's connection with the company as Chairman for a period of 27 years. The resolution was carried with acclamation and Mr. Drummond made a suitable reply.

The Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements has passed an Ordinance imposing a tax of five cents per gallon on petroleum. The tax is expected to add \$300,000 per annum to the Colony's revenue. The products taxable are what are generally known as the mineral oils, but they do not include any liquid or substance which has a flashing point higher than 150 degrees Fahrenheit. All petroleum taken out of a vessel, on which it has been imported, will, unless intended for transshipment only, be taken to what is termed a dutiable petroleum store, licensed for the purpose, and when removed from the store, otherwise than for export, it must pay duty of five cents per gallon. There are eight gallons of kerosene oil in one case. The tax per case will therefore be 40 cents. By rules which the Governor-in-Council is empowered to make, a fine may be imposed for breach of such rules not exceeding \$1,000 for each offence, and an additional \$50 for each day on which the offence continues.

A *Revue du Commerce en Extrême-Orient* has commenced publication in Paris. Each article is printed in French and in English. An address to readers in the first number says:—"All travellers in Eastern Countries have been struck with the inferior state in which our trade is as compared with that of our rivals, not only in their colonies but also in our own possessions. This is deplorable and dangerous from the political as well as commercial point of view, political interests being closely bound up with the commercial ones. Does this state of things depend upon superiority of the foreign merchant over the French? We do not believe it. The French merchant's activity, affability and honesty are recognised everywhere. On the other hand, the French article is always and everywhere, prices being equal, preferred to the foreign article. If the Frenchman does not succeed where others drive a thriving trade, it is because the others are best informed of the needs and of the tastes of the native. "The object of the review is to make known French products to Eastern buyers."

A HONGKONG EYESORE.

(Daily Press, December 6th.)

It is satisfactory to the public to have the assurance of the Government that the areas corresponding to what are known as the Bank Gardens in Royal Statue Square "will, with the sanction of the Secretary of State, be set apart and converted into gardens as soon as ever the Law Courts are finished and as soon as the Praya Reclamation Office is vacated, and those areas can be tidied up." The Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART, in moving a resolution committing the Legislative Council to an expression of opinion that "immediate steps should be taken to abate the nuisance," explained that this meant "the erasure of the drawing office, the removal of the road-surface factory and an issue of marching orders to the wood yard," but, after listening to what we cannot but think was a feeble and unsatisfactory defence of the existence of the nuisance, the hon. member was content to drop the motion on receiving the assurance of HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR that he would give his own personal consideration to the matter, promising that "whatever can be removed will be removed." Perhaps it was the fate of the motion no less than the rhetorical brilliance of the debate which suggested to a contributor in another column the idea of a "pyrotechnic display," for the simile is complete when we think of the thing going up as a rocket and coming down as a stick. We have no doubt that HIS EXCELLENCY will fulfil his promise, but if he is guided at all in the matter by the advice of his officers it is evident from the speech of the COLONIAL SECRETARY that there is little improvement to be expected for some time to come—until, in fact, the Post Office and Law Courts are completed. No dates were mentioned, but the Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY had no doubt that "the time will not be so very long distant now." Having regard to the length of time already occupied in putting up these buildings, there are many people who are inclined to believe that a year is but as yesterday in the sight of the Government. The foundation stone of the new Law Courts was laid in November, 1903, and it is doubtful if we shall see the building completed and ready for occupation in 1910. The nuisance has been existing far longer than this for the foundations took a very long time to prepare. As to the Post Office, it was mentioned by the COLONIAL SECRETARY that the contract for the superstructure was let in August, 1905, that it was a contract for four years, but will probably not be completed in less than five. And when these buildings are completed, what guarantee does the COLONIAL SECRETARY's speech contain that the whole area now occupied by the extensive range of matsheds, the wood and stone yards, etc., will be converted into the promised garden plot? In the past few years the plot has been needed to accommodate part of the staff of the Public Works Department, also to house at one time the Police and at another the Volunteers. And SIR HENRY told the Council that he knew of no other site where either the Police or the Volunteers could have been conveniently housed. So the argument seems to be that this site is absolutely necessary to the Government in all similar circumstances. For the purposes of a defence to the complaint, it was, perhaps, as good as could be found, but we trust that when once the plot is appropriated to the admirable purpose for which it is designed, the Government will find that there are other convenient sites for the temporary accommodation of its

officers should similar needs arise—as it is quite likely they will in the future—and that they will also be able to find other places more suitable than this for boiling tar when it is required for repairing Kennedy Road or other thoroughfares equally distant from the spot. As far as the Post Office contractor's sheds and yards are concerned, it was clear from the statement of the COLONIAL SECRETARY that he only dumped his material where it is because he found the Government more complaisant and accommodating than the private landlords from whom he had previously tried to rent a site, but it is not clear how there would have been "a very large increase in the cost of the building" had the contractor been obliged to go elsewhere for the accommodation. We may suppose that the contractor had not left the cost of such accommodation out of his calculations in drawing up the tender which the Government accepted, and so the risk of under-estimating was his, and not the Government's. However, we shall doubtless see this place in time the fitting entrance to the city that it was designed to be—the sooner the better—and it should not be forgotten that the original conception included the replacing of Statue Wharf by a more imposing structure.

EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, December 7th.)

We give in another column to-day the views which are likely to find expression this afternoon at a meeting of Chinese convened for the purpose apparently of formulating objections to the intention of the Government to increase the fees at the district schools of the Colony. The fee at the present time, we understand, is \$2 per month, and the intention is to increase the fee in some schools to \$3, and in others to \$4, for new scholars, and later on to make the new fees applicable to old scholars if circumstances are held to justify the step. Against this increase it is urged that the parents of the boys attending these district schools—situated at Saiyingpun, Yaumati and Wan-chai—belong mainly to the middle and lower classes; and that two dollars a month for each child is fully as much as they can afford for education. To raise the fee by fifty or a hundred per cent., it is urged, would practically mean a denial of education in these primary schools to numbers of such children as hitherto have enjoyed the privilege, to the benefit alike of themselves and the community. Families are not usually small among the Chinese, and even though a reduction be made when a family contributes more than one pupil to a school, education must form a very considerable item of expense in the domestic budget where the revenue side shows an income of not more than \$25 to \$30 a month, a sum that may be given as the average wage of the skilled artisan in Hongkong. A clearer idea of what this means to the Chinese working-man may be obtained by contrasting his position in the matter with that of the labourer and the artisan in England. Where education was not given free in the elementary schools in England the fee commonly charged was 2d a week. Here in Hongkong, with the fee at \$2, the artisan and labourer has to pay at the rate of 10d per week for each child, though it takes him a month to earn what the English working-man earns in a week. If it is a fact that the boys attending these district schools are the children of the middle and lower classes, it becomes at once apparent from this contrast that the parents are already making heavy sacrifices

out of very slender means in order to give their sons an education "sufficient to enable them to earn a living," and we can well believe that the doubling of the fee would amount to closing the doors of these schools to boys of this class. This, therefore, brings us at once to the question of the Government's responsibility for primary education in the Colony. The Government's reasons for resolving to increase the fees of these schools can be well understood. Applications for admission into these district schools, we understand, are largely in excess of the actual number that can be accommodated, notwithstanding the fact that large sums of money have been spent in recent years not only in the better equipment of the schools, but on the enlargement of school buildings. As a reference to the Blue Books will show, the percentage of expenditure on education in the Colony has been steadily growing, and this, combined with the fact that the applications for admission to the schools largely exceed the vacancies that occur, is the Government's justification for raising the fees. If the higher fees tend to shut out the sons of the middle and lower class of Chinese from the Government district schools—which, by the way, were originally intended to serve as feeders for Queen's College, but have never fulfilled their mission in that respect—it does not necessarily follow that they are denied all opportunities of securing an education on the lines of that given in the Government schools. As against 14 Government schools in the Colony, we see that there are 65 grant-in-aid schools, some of which presumably would be glad to receive additional pupils, for the average attendance in these sixty-five grant-in-aid schools is only 3,780, as compared with 2,144 in the fourteen Government schools. What the Government is striving to do is to improve the standard of education in these district schools, and the fact that in the last budget a sum of \$800 was set apart for scholarships to Queen's College from the district schools is indicative of that intention. The suggestion is made in the statement which appears in another column that the Government is seeking to induce the managers of the grant-in-aid schools to increase the fees at these schools also, and that the Government may find in a school's refusal an excuse to reduce its grant. This can hardly be accepted as a fair statement of the Government's attitude in the matter. It is, at least, we imagine, a very inadequate presentation of the facts. In his last Budget statement H. E. The GOVERNOR drew attention to the fact that the amount in grants under the Code continues to increase and reaches this year the large sum of \$65,000. HIS EXCELLENCY said he proposed to examine this question during the year, and we infer from the statement appearing elsewhere that the examination is in progress. If the object of this grant of a fixed sum in respect of every child in a school is to enhance the efficiency of a school, there is doubtless much to be said in criticism of the basis on which the grant is made; for if the same grant is made for an infant as for a boy or girl in the higher standards, it is quite possible to have a school in which efficiency is sacrificed to revenue by the admission of a disproportionate number of infants. Doubtless, the result of HIS EXCELLENCY's examination of the question will be made public in due course, but in the meantime we may be quite sure that if there is any prospect of a school's grant being reduced, the Government's action will be found to be supported by more solid and satisfactory reasons than such puny vindictiveness as is suggested by the statement that "if the fee

is not increased the Government may find an excuse to reduce the grant." The whole question is one which might with advantage be widely discussed, for in its final aspect it is one in which regard must be had to the views of the taxpayers of the Colony,

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN EUROPE.

(Daily Press, December 8th.)

Last month we drew attention to the remarkable shift in the political centre of gravity of the entire Continent of Europe, which has followed the conclusion of the Russo-Japanese war. Though the change has followed quickly the close of that war, and though the retirement of Russia from an actively aggressive policy in Eastern Asia consequent on the conclusion of the war has been one of the factors bringing about that change, it has by no means been the only, nor even the principal, cause. An able and well-informed writer in the *Quarterly Review* for October, M. ANDRE CHERADAME, has taken up the subject from a French point of view, and his conclusions, agreeing in the main with our own, add one or two further points of interest, which have, moreover, come prominently to the front in the short space of time that has elapsed since the publication of the article.

We alluded to the practical effect of the shift in having practically isolated Germany from the surrounding nations, and to the immediate cause of this having been the forcible annexation by Austria of the Bosnian principalities. This step, we mentioned, was "suggested, if not altogether engineered, from Berlin," and it is noteworthy how absolutely this agrees with the view put forward by M. CHERADAME, who attributes the step to the advice of the KAISER WILLIAM II., whose Pan-Germanic tendencies are becoming from year to year more marked. It was, as we remarked, not so much the fact of the formal annexation within the dual monarchy of the principalities that startled Europe, as to what was to follow from the method in which the act was done. Europe had come to look without jealousy, if not with actual approval, on Austria's administration of the two principalities; and there is little doubt that if Austria had reported to the Powers, who originally put her in possession, her desire to formally take the step of amalgamating them in the Empire, she would have gained her suit almost, if not entirely, unanimously. What the other States, with the exception of Germany alone, found occasion to cavil about was that Austria in a matter closely affecting the European balance had essayed to act exclusively on her own initiative. This feeling, while the position was still under discussion, came to be seriously aggravated by the fact that Germany when appealed to in the regular way, not only refused to join with the other Powers, but, went needlessly out of her way to assert her own entire concurrence in Austria's flouting of the public susceptibilities of Europe. As M. CHERADAME points out, this has led to an uneasy feeling throughout the Slavonic States; and in his article referred to he compares them with the Germanic States, and shows how vastly the Slavonic peoples outnumber the Germans. Not only is this true at the moment, but the natural rate of increase of the Slavonians greatly exceeds that of the others. For many years it has been notorious indeed in the States under the control of the dual monarchy, that while the Slavonic peoples were rapidly growing, the Germans showed a tendency to decrease both in numbers and influence. In Bohemia this

increase was very marked, and even in the streets of Vienna the preponderance of the Slavonic element has become very marked. Russia since her estrangement from Austria has undoubtedly been trying to take advantage of her altered position with regard to Germany to spread her influence amongst the Slavonic peoples—more especially in the Balkan States, which being in close contiguity to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, can influence very seriously her own subject populations. That this is the case was very apparent during the excitement that accompanied the first steps towards annexation, when the whole of Bohemia was thrown into a ferment, the non-German majority openly showing their sympathy with Serbia in its warlike measures. At the time Russia, hoping to be able to persuade Austro-Hungary to accept the proposed conference, gave no encouragement to the Servian agitators. Yielding, however, to influences originating in Berlin the Austro-Hungarian Government refused to listen to these proposals, (and Russia withdrew, giving open expression to her chagrin. The result has been a revival of the Pan-Slavonic agitation which some twenty years ago was agitating Europe, and was the inspiring cause of the so-called Triplice.

One of the first effects of this revival has become apparent in the rational drawing together of the Balkan States outside the immediate rule of Austro-Hungary, and this has finally ended under Russian influence in the formal agreement of Bulgaria and Serbia to enter into an alliance, apparently offensive and defensive, against Austria, in which the other States, though not as yet formally, openly sympathise. Though at the moment the formal alliance has been established on peaceful lines, the revival of a Pan-Slavonic agitation is hardly less dangerous to the peace of the world than the Pan-Germanic league fostered in Berlin, should its control fall into unwise or over-ambitious hands. Meanwhile it is instructive to notice that its immediate effect has been to moderate the aspirations of the Pan-Germanist party. It must have become evident, even to the more ardent upholders of the latter party, that Germany unassisted could not afford to carry on much longer the beggar-my-neighbour policy of building up a navy capable of over-shadowing England. The present Government by its nerveless and revolutionary policy at Home, supported as it was by a reactionary House of Commons, elected on false pretences in January, 1906, gave Germany every hope that Great Britain, tired of empire, was not prepared to incur the necessary expenses for upholding her superiority at sea; and would permit, without an effort to counteract it, the unlimited expansion of the German navy. So far as the Government and the present House of Commons is concerned, this hope was well founded, and neither would of its own motion have intervened. Had not the German Emperor told them that he did not intend to disturb the peace of Europe? Surely, said Mr. ASQUITH, that ought to be enough for any reasonable man. But those who knew better than the House of Commons the pulse of the country saw that the nation did not share these puny views; and felt that to lose the command of the Seas, with an inefficient army, meant the extinction as a Power in the world of the British Empire. The growth of returning reason was slow, but it has been steady; and at the last moment even the worst and most unsympathetic Government that ever has been in office has been forced to yield; and, unwillingly and with evil grace, set about recovering lost ground. The effect of these new conditions on the continent was curiously

and unexpectedly swift. Austria found she had to husband her resources, and was not disposed to go on in such a hurry with her proposed Dreadnoughts; more markedly the late Chauvinistic Press of Germany suddenly began to think it might be advisable to listen if England made overtures, as, after all, shipbuilding was expensive. The curious part of the whole of this, which even the man in the street could interpret, was that the really effective point of the whole was lost upon Mr. ASQUITH and his friends, who fondly conceived that the changed face of Germany was really brought about by their own appeals to an imaginary code of international ethics; and that Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL's appearance at the German military manoeuvres as the apostle of peace had actually won over the hard heart of the KAISER to the cause.

As we have seen above, the KAISER has had very much more serious things to ponder over than Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL's doctrines of international ethics and the wickedness of war; and not the least of these is the very unpleasant predicament into which the following of the advice has led his newly-found ally Austro-Hungary. People wiser than Mr. ASQUITH have suggested that the renewal of work at the British dockyards, and the very plain indications given by the country at large that it was not prepared to hazard the existence of the Empire on a cast of the dice, or the little more trustworthy indication—the word of an Emperor—have had really much more to do with the change of face than all the Utopian doctrines of that very exemplary young man, Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL. We have, however, now arrived at the crucial point of the contest between returning reason and heedless folly. The contest is the most serious that has befallen England for three centuries, but it is not meet for him that girdeth on his armour to boast as he that taketh it off.

PUBLIC HOUSE REFORM IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, December 9th.)

At last week's meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council an interesting memorandum on the licensing of public houses in the Colony was, by command of H. E. the GOVERNOR, laid upon the table, but the subject was not discussed at that meeting, nor does it appear from the Agenda of today's meeting that the memorandum will be taken into consideration, unless the subject arises, as possibly it may, in connection with the Bill to amend the Licensing Ordinances. The recommendation of the Committee appointed to consider a suggestion for improving the Public Houses of the Colony is that the Government should give notice to the present licencees that after three years from next licensing date it will not renew the existing licences. It is recommended that the Government should thereafter issue only ten licences to a Company, to run the houses on the Gothenburg system. This is the suggestion that the Committee prefer, (though they make two alternative suggestions. This idea of running the Public Houses in this Colony on the Gothenburg system is certainly an attractive one, and will command, we imagine, very general support, though many may doubt the practicability of the scheme. In the memorandum it is explained that the system is briefly that public house licences should be transferred to a company, the shareholders in which should derive no profit from the sale of intoxicating liquors beyond a fixed percentage on the capital invested, while

the actual managers of the public houses should be salaried persons having no share in the profit on the sale of intoxicating liquors. At Home a proposal to reduce the number of publican's licences in any city by one-half would evoke a storm of protest engineered by the owners of these valuable properties, especially when the proposal makes no reference to compensation either to the owners or the licencees in any shape or form, but in Hongkong, where these properties are not so valuable and other circumstances are somewhat different, the silence which has followed the publication of the sweeping recommendation we have briefly outlined may be accepted, we think, as indicative of a general approval of the idea. Apparently the recommendation would involve the closing of the public bars of the leading hotels of the Colony. According to the definitions of the Licensing Ordinance a "public house" means any house or place of entertainment where intoxicating liquors are sold by retail and may be consumed on the premises, but does not include any place of entertainment kept under an adjunct licence or Chinese restaurant licence; and an adjunct licence is designed to meet the requirements of hotel-keepers, restaurateurs or confectioners for the retail sale of intoxicating liquors as an adjunct to their respective businesses, but does not authorise the keeping of a public bar. So the public bars of the leading hotels would disappear with the purely drinking saloons which cluster in Queen's Road Central if this scheme is carried out. But is the conversion of the public house from a drinking bar to "a house of refreshment for the supply of wholesome food and non-alcoholic liquors as well as of beer and spirits," to the extent the Committee evidently have in mind, a practical idea? Would it be possible to persuade the investing public to put money into such an enterprise? Presumably the present public houses do little more than pay their way. We are not aware that fortunes are made in the business, and we see that of the present licencees two have carried on business in the Colony for fifteen years, one for seventeen years and yet another for twenty-one years. From the point of view of the possible investor, it is to be regretted that the original idea of starting with one house on the Gothenburg system was deemed to be impracticable in competition with ordinary public houses. Apparently in the Gothenburg house it would not be necessary for the patron to have food with every glass of liquor, as in the house having an adjunct licence, and it would rest with the manager of the establishment to "promote the higher temperance," by placing greater restrictions on the supply of liquor to his customer than is the case now, and that would be a factor operating against the prospects of an eight per cent. dividend for the company which controls the houses. We have no desire to throw cold water on the scheme. The aim in view has our cordial sympathy and support, and we trust the Committee are in a position to satisfy the public that it is a sound proposition.

An appropriation of P250,000 has been made for the dredging of the mouth of the Iloilo river. The contract has been let to the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific Company. The river at that point will be dredged to a depth of nine feet and the work is to be completed within nine months. The dredging will enable large steamers to pass in and lie along the east side. This is the first appropriation toward accomplishing that for which an appropriation of P1,250,002 has been asked.

THE SEA CARRIAGE OF PLAGUE.

(Daily Press December 10th.)

Notwithstanding all the study and research devoted in the last ten or fifteen years to the etiology of plague, we are still without a satisfactory explanation of the origin of the epidemics which from time to time occur in places wide apart. Plague at the present time appears to be epidemic at Kobe in Japan, and at Hankow in the Yangtze, while every other port in the Far East, including Hongkong, seem to be absolutely free of the dread disease. How did the epidemics in these places originate? How was it introduced into Hongkong fifteen years ago? Nobody can with certainty tell us; but here, as everywhere else, the experts give us what little consolation is to be found in the suggestion that "it must have been introduced from some other place." At a Medical Congress held at Bombay recently a paper was read suggesting preventive measures that should be adopted in docks and on board ship to prevent the carriage of plague by sea. The author of this paper was Dr. BLACKMORE, formerly assistant to the Port Health Officer of Bombay. He insisted that the rat is undoubtedly the essential factor in the carriage of plague by sea, and urged that if the transmission of plague is to be prevented some means must be devised of either preventing rats from gaining access to ships in infected ports, or the rats must be destroyed on board the ship after it has left such ports, for, in Dr. BLACKMORE's opinion "the destruction of rats is the one measure of supreme importance, and the docks of infected countries are the places in which it should be most systematically carried out." There is one observation in the Doctor's paper which will give rise to some interesting reflections. It is this:—"Bombay is at the present time, and has been for some years, the great plague-distributing centre of the world, and it is here that the greatest activity should be displayed in destroying the known carrier of plague. I regret to say that up to the present no attempt of any kind in this direction to limit the spread of plague has been made." It should at once be said that this statement stands in need of correction, so far, at least, as the last sentence of it is concerned. Dr. BLACKMORE's knowledge on this point apparently did not extend to what has been done at Bombay since he left the service three years ago. According to the Health Officer of Bombay, who took part in the discussion which followed the reading of the paper, all ships in Bombay are now kept three feet off the dock wall by means of specially-constructed fenders their ropes and hawsers are protected by metal discs of an approved type, and the gangways when down are freshly tarred. The Sanitary Authority offers to free all ships of rats, cockroaches, &c., by means of sulphur dioxide gas generated in a Clayton apparatus which is capable of saturating 250,000 cubic feet of space per hour with a germicidal or vermin-destroying gas. All plague-infected ships have to be Claytonised before they can obtain a Bill of Health, and all pilgrim ships have to be free from rats by the same process before pilgrims are taken on board. In the Port of Bombay the Claytonising of ships is done free of charge with the exception that the sulphur required for the process has to be provided by the ship. All this has been done only in the last three years, but, according to Dr. BLACKMORE's dictum, Bombay has been for some years the great plague-distributing centre of the world, and if that is so it strikes us

as exceedingly strange that Colombo, Penang, Singapore and many other ports in the East, to say nothing of the ports to the West which are in frequent steamship communication with Bombay, should have enjoyed absolute immunity from the scourge all these years. But though Bombay, down to a comparatively recent date, may have done nothing to prevent communication by rats between ship and shore, the health authorities there have for a decade or more been at great pains to thoroughly disinfect the clothing of certain people going by sea. Dr. BLACKMORE considers the method of personal examination in Bombay to be so efficient that surprisingly few cases of plague have ever been allowed to leave the port. He also considers that the danger of the carriage of plague over-sea, by means of fleas, is so remote that it is questionable whether it is necessary to take any steps to prevent it. As an Indian contemporary remarks, the official subscription to his opinion would mean the cessation of the enormous disinfection arrangements that now take place in Bombay, where the clothing of many persons going out of India is submitted to severe treatment in order to destroy germs as well as fleas. Dr. BLACKMORE admits that no cause of infection from India traceable to clothing has ever been traced to another country, but he denies that disinfection is responsible for this, holding that this is proved by the well-known fact that the clothing of saloon passengers, whether European or native, and of all officers or engineers, whether European or native, are exempted from disinfection, although the native officer and the native sailor, when they land in Bombay, very frequently live in the same parts of the town and under very similar conditions. In Dr. BLACKMORE's view, "the one essential measure—and the one so strangely neglected in India . . . is the destruction of rats in the docks of infected countries on board vessels sailing from those countries, and in the docks of uninfected countries in which such vessels are to be ultimately berthed." The attempt to prevent rats from passing on to ships lying alongside wharves or dock walls must, he thinks, be confessed to have failed, and it is difficult, he says, to conceive of any really effectual measure which would at the same time allow the ordinary loading and unloading work to be carried on unhampered. Even if rats could be prevented from passing on board themselves a certain number would be carried on board in cargo and baggage. If, however, there were no rats in the docks, none could gain access to the ships excepting the few that might be in articles of cargo. There can, then, he concludes, be no doubt whatever that even if measures are not taken to free infected ports of rats, at least every effort should be made to rid the docks of them, and with properly organised, persistent and systematic efforts, the attempt should meet with such a measure of success as to render the exportation of plague very improbable. The only comment we have to make on this is that, if we accept the theory that plague is carried from one port to another by means of rats on board ships, is it not very extraordinary that we have heard so little of plague among the crews of ships trading with Bombay, and is it not also strange that the plague germ has not been left in every port at which a Bombay steamer calls?

Prince Ching has been requested to consult with the British Minister to have the term for putting an end to the opium trade reduced on account of the fact that poppy cultivation in China has been thoroughly prohibited.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

The sporting festival is concluded, St Andrew's Day has been duly celebrated, and we have got back to ordinary life.

Aye, there were some sairheids on Wednesday morning. It was not Scotch whisky that could be blamed on this occasion. Strange though it may seem, the Scot's beverage takes second place at the Scottish festival to the wine of France. Champagne was first favourite, and whether it affects the head or the feet the result is always the same. There is always plenty of "life" in the dances and the "hoohing" would gladden the heart of any Scot fresh from Home.

The strathspey and reel went better than was expected. The music of the Buffs was all that could be desired for that dance, and everything passed off most successfully.

Hongkong secured the cricket honours, but the tennis honours went to the Straits. It was a big surprise to see Carr, our local cham ion, failing to make a stand against Cox, who, without doubt, is the finest player we have seen here. His service was practically untakenable, and the precision and force with which he made the ball skid the net were little short of marvellous. Moreover, his every stroke was clean and free, and it was a pleasure to watch his play.

Apropos of St. Andrew's Ball there is an interesting article on "Ancient Highland Spas" in the *British Medical Journal*, in which the story is told of the dancing cure as it was practised many years ago in Strathspey. A Highland shepherd, one Donald M'Alpin, a famous dancer, was reputed to have cured his mistress of a mysterious malady by dancing a reel with her, and this story being noised abroad gained him the reputation of being a successful physician. His humble cottage was besieged with crowds of patients, and he soon had a thriving practice. He engaged as assistant an ancient piper, who did the duties of apothecary, and the two evolved a course of treatment for almost every ill to which the flesh is heir. All these different processes terminated in the patient being wrapped up in warm blankets, and the doses of medicine and dancing were repeated according to the patient's constitution and disease. This was Christian Science before the days of Mrs. Eddy, and even in Hongkong the strathspey and the more popular waltz are cure for mysterious maladies to this day.

Dear me! Is the Legislative Council descending to the level of the Sanitary Board? It certainly looks like it when a whole afternoon is given to a full dress debate, an oratorical pyrotechnic display, on the abatement of a nuisance. Reminds one of the thrilling discussions sometimes heard at Home as to the condition of the parish pump.

Perhaps it was because the subject under notice was comparatively unimportant that the debate at the Council on Thursday was so entertaining. Our new knight was entrusted with the official explanation of the "nuisance," and scored when he pointed out that the term was not rightly applied. His attempt to "turn the tables" was not quite so successful. The Star Ferry Company's matshed is no doubt a worthy object of ridicule, but to suggest that the advertisement alluded to was a reference to some new brand of whisky was rather a far-fetched attempt at the facetious on the part of the Colonial Secretary. An Irishman ought to be more conversant with the different products of the still. But one wonders with whose eyes the valiant critic looked at the advertisement when he read "millinery and underwear." I have studied the advertisement carefully more than once and have never been able to interpret it as Sir Henry has done.

From what transpired in the course of Thursday's debate it would appear that the Star Ferry Company have been anxious for quite a long time to replace the matshed on their wharf with a more permanent structure, but the Government have neither said yea nor nay. That sounds all right, but one fails to appreciate the attitude of a company desirous of improving its property being content to wait

years for a reply to its proposals. One would have thought that the Government would have been reminded that no answer had been received to a certain letter. That seems an ordinary business view of the matter, but possibly the explanation has not been full enough.

I am told that the orators at the Legislative Council were particularly happy on Thursday. The clock ceased work and its warning hands did not remind speakers of the speeding of the minutes.

Sir Henry May is happiest when he is most Irish. On Saturday night he gave "a lesson in Irish" at the Y. M. C. A. and slipped into a beautiful *Irishism* in the course of one of the stories he was relating. He said a certain landlord was dressed in a pair of brown boots!

Those who heard Sir Henry's concluding story on Saturday night went home happy. It was particularly good and is worth giving. An Irish teacher complained to a mother that her son Micky was dirty. "He's not only dirty, but he smells." "Smells," exclaimed the indignant mother, "my Micky's not a rose. You've not to smell him; you've to larn him."

RODERICK RANDOM.

HONGKONG.

Dr. C. M. Heanley, who resides at the Astor House Hotel, has been registered to practise medicine and surgery in this Colony.

A batch of seventeen griffins for the forthcoming races arrived from Shanghai by the *s.s. Hangsang* on Saturday.

Mr. W. A. Rublee, the successor of Dr. Wilder as American Consul-General at Hongkong, arrived by the *Siberia* on Monday accompanied by Mrs. Rublee and family.

Mr. Denman Fuller gave an organ recital in St. John's Cathedral on Tuesday to a large and appreciative audience. The soloist was Mrs. Badeley, who was in fine voice and rendered her numbers most effectively.

H.E. the Governor, together with H.E. Major General Broadwood and staff, dined at the officers' mess of the 13th Rajputs on Tuesday. A guard of honour and the band welcomed the distinguished visitors on their arrival.

At the Magistracy on Dec. 8 Mr. J. R. Wood committed a Chinese man and woman for trial at the Criminal Sessions on the charge of bringing a boy fifteen years of age into the Colony from Canton, and attempting to sell him for \$40.50.

A Chinese who was arrested at West Point last week on a charge of stealing a diamond ring, a pair of gold bangles and \$51, and admitted to bail in the sum of \$500, failed to put in an appearance at the Magistracy on Saturday, and his bail was estreated.

Lieut. E. P. H. Pardoe, R.M.L.I., and Mr. A. Rodger, President of the V.R.C., have been appointed members of the committee for the Wongneicheong and Queen's Recreation Grounds, in succession to Lieut. C. B. Mulling, R. M. L. I., and Mr. Armstrong.

A native who attempted to palm a brass finger ring on to a pawnbroker at Yaumati as gold was charged before Mr. E. R. Hallifax at the Magistracy on Monday with endeavouring to obtain money by false pretences. He pleaded guilty to the charge, and was ordered to pay a fine of \$20.

At a meeting of the Court of the Hongkong College of Medicine held on Tuesday Dr. R. MacLean-Gibson, Superintendent of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals, was appointed Secretary. Dr. J. C. Thomson, who is about to leave the Colony, held the position for many years.

A lukong who was on patrol duty in the New Territory on Sunday, observing four suspicious-looking characters, stopped and searched them. On one man he found a loaded revolver, and took the possessor to the Yaumati Police Station. The man was charged before Mr. E. R. Hallifax at the Magistracy on Monday with carrying firearms without a licence, and a fine of \$10 was imposed.

Thirteen natives appeared before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Tuesday on a charge of gambling at No. 289, Queen's Road Central. The defendants were found guilty and the two keepers of the same game were fined \$100 each, and each of the players \$5. The amount found on the table, \$592, was confiscated.

His Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to Ordinance No. 3 of 1909.—An Ordinance to amend the Evidence Ordinance, 1889; Ordinance No. 24 of 1909.—An Ordinance to amend the Rating Ordinance, 1901; and Ordinance No. 25 of 1909.—An Ordinance to amend the Dogs' Ordinance, 1893.

An Indian watchman at the Taikoo Docks, observing a coolie attempting to leave the works with a length of electric cable, endeavoured to arrest him. In the struggle which followed the coolie vanquished the watchman and made his escape. But he was subsequently arrested at Chiu Lung, and on appearing before Mr. E. R. Hallifax at the Magistracy on Monday was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

The election of directors of the Tung Wa Hospital by the Chinese residents for 1910 took place on Monday at noon, at the hall of that institution. Mr. Lau Chu Pak was given with one exception all the votes for the Chairmanship, and his appointment was proclaimed with great applause. It attests the popularity of Mr. Lau Chu Pak that his compatriots should load him with so many public duties, and it is to his credit that he is willing to give so much of his time to their discharge.

The police crusade against gamblers continues, and two more batches were placed in the dock at the Magistracy on Dec. 8th. Of the twelve charged before Mr. Hallifax the keeper was fined \$10, and each of the eleven players \$2. Another batch of 22, which included one woman, were placed before Mr. J. R. Wood. These law breakers were arrested by Detective-Sergeant Appleton at No. 17, Tung Man Lane. The first two defendants, the keepers, were fined \$200 each, while each of the players were ordered to pay a fine of \$5.

The return showing the storage of water in the reservoirs of the city and hill districts of the Colony on the 1st instant shows 696,473,000 gallons as compared with 629,980,000 last year; but an increased consumption for the month of November is shown, the rate per head per day working out at 23.1 gallons this November as compared with 21.5 in the same month last year. At the Kowloon waterworks the storage on the 1st instant was 246,792,000 gallons, which is 86,682,000 gallons more than on the same date last year, while the consumption per head per day in November was 8.9 gallons as compared with 11.2 in November last year.

The returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th November, 1909, as certified by the manager of the respective banks are as follow:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China ...	4,357,989	4,400,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation ...	11,460,714	13,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited ...	51,336	Nil.
Total, ...	\$16,469,492	17,800,000

Mr. E. H. Hinds, who is leaving Hongkong on the 15th inst. for Home, after eleven years residence in the Colony, was entertained by a large number of friends at a farewell dinner at the Hongkong Club on Saturday night. The Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett occupied the chair and Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, the vice-chair. In proposing the toast of the evening the Chairman gave expression to the esteem in which Mr. Hinds is so widely held in the Colony alike on account of his qualities as a sport and his enterprise and ability as a business man. Immediately underneath the menu was a quotation from Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*: "Let it alone: let's to billiards," and the company accordingly adjourned to the billiard room after dinner, when Mr. Hinds played a game with Mr. Beattie. He was in capital form and gave an exhibition of play worthy of his reputation as a billiard player.

IMPENDING DEPARTURE OF DR. J. C. THOMPSON.

Regret will be generally expressed that Dr. J. C. Thomson is leaving the Colony at the end of the year through ill-health. The valuable services which he has rendered to the College of Medicine during the past twenty-three years were acknowledged on Friday afternoon when he was presented with a piece of plate from the members of the Senate, the licentiates and the students.

Dr. J. C. Thomson on Wednesday evening was the recipient of an illuminated and framed Address from the congregation of Union Church which acknowledged the services he had rendered to the Church during his residence in Hongkong. The following is an extract from the Address:—"As a regular and reverent worshipper your attendance has been exemplary. The Sunday School profited greatly by your Superintendency—the teaching of Hymns especially promoting a ministry to homelife. The Session has uniformly associated wise counsel with your faithful Eldership. For many years your services as Honorary Secretary of the Church have been noted for their courage, urbanity, openness of mind, unsparing attention to detail and for phenomenal promptness of despatch. In the Trusteeship of the Church, on the Committee of Management, in connection with the Literary Club, and in numerous incidental enterprises you have given your time unsparingly and your interest with thoughtful painstaking." The Address was presented at a social gathering by Mr. W. G. Humphreys.

DEPARTURE OF GENERAL MACHADO.

General Sir Joachim Machado, K.C.M.G., the Commissioner appointed by the Government of Portugal, to settle with H. E. Kao Ehr Kim, the Chinese Commissioner, the boundaries of Macao, was entertained by the Portuguese Consul and Mrs. Leiria to a farewell tiffin at their residence "Duart," Arbuthnot Road, on Dec. 8. The company present included the members of the Commissioner's suite, representatives of the Portuguese Navy, and local British journalists and their wives. Mr. Leiria, in felicitous terms, proposed the health of General Machado, who in reply spoke in the highest terms of the hospitality he had enjoyed during his stay in Hongkong, and gave expression to feelings of great admiration for the enterprise and administrative ability everywhere displayed in Hongkong. His Excellency paid a special tribute to the British newspapers of the Colony, which he said he had read with regularity and great appreciation. Consul and Mrs. Leiria held an "At Home" on Thursday evening in honour of His Excellency, who left on Friday by the *Nippon Maru* for Shanghai en route to Peking. He will be accompanied by Captain Norton, but Senhor Cinnati, whose health has been unsatisfactory since he came to Hongkong, leaves for Home to-day by the P. and O. *Himalaya*.

The "At Home" given by the Consul for Portugal and Mrs. Leiria at their residence on Thursday as a farewell to General Sir Joachim Machado, K.C.M.G., was attended by several hundred residents. The "At Home" lasting from 4 to 8 p.m. Dancing was included in the programme, and a very pleasant time was spent. General Machado, with his secretary, Captain Norton, leaves for Shanghai en route to Peking to-day. There is no present intention, we understand, to resume at Peking the negotiations for the delimitation of the boundaries at Macao, which were recently interrupted, and there is no official confirmation of the report which has appeared in the Chinese Press that the Chinese Government has agreed to a reference of the dispute to The Hague Tribunal of Arbitration. General Machado expects to soon return to Hongkong en route for Lisbon. The General was last night entertained by the Portuguese community at the Club Lusitano, and presented with an illuminated address.

Eighteen eunuchs have been discharged by the Empress Dowager for interfering in important affairs in the Palace.

SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Tuesday at the Board Room. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe presided, and there were present: Hon. Mr. P. N. H. Jones (Vice-President), Dr. Fitzwilliams, Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General), Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Colonel Bedford, R.A.M.C., Mr. Ng Hon Tsz, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Dr. Pearse (A.M.O.H.) and Mr. W. Bowen Rowlands (Secretary).

CONTRACTOR FINED.

The report of the committee appointed to deal with complaints against the Kowloon conservancy contractor stated that he had been fined \$100. Regarding his fitness to carry on the present contract, the committee considered that certain portions of the work had been fairly well done, but that the disposal of the refuse portion of the contract was being done exceedingly badly. The committee therefore proposed to see what reports came in during the next month, and to report to the Board at the end of that time as to whether they considered the contractor fit to carry on his contract or not.

Mr. HOOPER—In the meantime the fine will be in abeyance?

The PRESIDENT—It will be deducted from his cheque at the end of this month.

THE CEMETERY QUESTION.

Correspondence was submitted relative to sub-divisions in the Colonial Cemetery.

Mr. HOOPER minuted—I think civil servants should be treated as ordinary residents, and no distinction made.

The PRESIDENT here announced that neither he nor the Secretary had been able to quite make out what the Hon. Mr. Hewett had written in his minute, and the President asked the writer if he would oblige by reading what he had written.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I think the naval and military authorities should have their own sections, as new arrivals often like to visit and care for the graves of their late comrades. I do not know whether there is any special demand for a children's section. For the rest there should be no distinction except so far as people even in death are divided by their religious convictions. This is met by providing each denomination with its own cemetery.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—Section 11 states what the sub-divisions are to be. The only question before the Board is whether the area suggested for such sub-divisions should be approved.

The PRESIDENT—I agree with the Director of Public Works. The sections have already been settled. The only question is what portion of the Cemetery shall be allotted to each section.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL stated that all that had been settled by the byelaws.

The PRESIDENT said the byelaws stated distinctly that there should be sections for the Naval, Military, Civil Service and various other people, and the question they were dealing with at present was what the actual sections should be on the ground. The plan before the Board showed where they were at present, and in the case of the children's section, where there was not much space left, it was proposed to allot another portion. He did not think they need enter into the question as to whether Civil Servants and others should have a section, as that had been already agreed to, and the byelaws had been confirmed by the Legislative Council.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I have nothing to say if that question is not going to be re-opened. But I think it is a mistake. I was at Home when the thing was passed.

The PRESIDENT—I understand you oppose the different sections?

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Except the Naval and Military.

Mr. HOOPER said he found from the plan before him that the Civil Servants and the Naval and Military were all buried together.

The PRESIDENT—I think they are all close together.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said the idea of keeping the Naval and Military apart was on account of their special grants, and because their comrades went round periodically and repaired their

graves. It was much better for that reason that they should be kept together.

The PRESIDENT said it appeared to him that it would be a very difficult thing to settle this question without going down to the cemetery.

Mr. HOOPER agreed.

The PRESIDENT stated that another question which came up in connection with this was that up till now a site had always been reserved for monuments only in the cemetery. He suggested that a standing committee should be appointed to deal with cemetery questions, or that the cemetery committee already appointed to grant exhumation permits should be given power to deal with this matter and report to the Board. He certainly thought that some members of the Board should visit the cemetery before they decided on the question.

Mr. HOOPER thought that Civil Servants should be treated as residents, as they were residents to all intents and purposes. When they came out here they expected to remain as ordinary residents, but the Naval and Military were different, and he thought it was a good thing that they should have their respective plots down there. So far as the Navy was concerned, he knew that they periodically had their monuments inspected and repaired out of grants, and he thought the Military did the same.

COLONEL BEDFORD—Yes.

Mr. HOOPER thought it was a good thing to keep the Naval and Military together, and if they were bound to have a section for the Civil Service then they could have one. But he saw no reason why Civil Servants should be different to other residents, because they expected to be here as long as the ordinary resident.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—Longer.

Mr. HOOPER—Well, that is for ever.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—What about these divisions of young and old residents? Does that still hold?

The PRESIDENT thought it would be better to let the Cemetery Committee report on the suggested divisions to the Board. They could also deal with the later question of permits for monuments which exceeded the size. That was the alternative to the Board adjourning in a body to Happy Valley and laying out the sections there.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said if the whole question of sections was going to be raised he would like to make a few remarks. He knew it was a custom in some parts of the world to have a children's cemetery. He had already said that the Naval and Military should have their own sections, but for the rest he did not think there should be any division at all, and he certainly could not conceive why there should be a division between a young resident of seven years and an old resident of twenty-one years' standing. He thought the whole thing ought to be reconsidered.

The PRESIDENT—I don't think that is the question before the Board. It is merely the laying out of these plots which the Board had set apart.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I misunderstood you. I thought you were going to suggest that the sub-committee should raise the whole question.

The PRESIDENT replied that that was not his intention, and proposed that a committee, consisting of Colonel Bedford, Mr. Hooper and himself be appointed, and that power be given them to grant excess area after due consideration in cases where monuments made at Home might possibly exceed the size allowed by a few inches. He thought that committee could go into the question of sites for the various sections and any other matters which the Board as a whole could not deal with.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL seconded.

On the vote being taken,

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said he did not propose to vote, because he disapproved of the whole system and would much rather have the whole question raised again.

The motion was carried.

▲ PREMATURELY ERECTED MONUMENT.

A letter was read from Mr. C. E. Warren expressing regret for having erected a monument in the Colonial Cemetery, which had been the subject of complaint at the previous meeting of the Board, and explained that it was due to a misunderstanding.

The letter was laid on the table.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on Thursday in the Council Chamber.

The following were present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

Hon. Sir F. H. MAY, K.C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. F. A. HAZELAND (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. P. N. H. JONES (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY (Capt. Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK, C.M.G.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table Financial Minutes (Nos 55 and 56), and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 19) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Trade Marks" be recommitted for a certain verbal alteration.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to, the Council going into Committee.

On the Council resuming,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

STAMP ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Stamp Ordinance, 1901." In doing so he said—The Bill proposes to further amend the Stamp Ordinance. Clauses 1 to 3 are designed by the imposition of penalties in respect of delayed applications, to induce interested parties to make early application for probate of the estate of deceased persons to prevent evasion of duties. Clause 4 relates to the stamping on a conveyance or assignment on sale and incorporates section 55 of the Imperial Act of 1891.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, in seconding the motion, I would add that the evasions of probate are so frequent and inconvenient and detrimental to the revenue that it has been deemed necessary to impose an extra probate duty in order to curtail what I may call this dishonest practice.

The motion was carried, and Council went into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On clause 2,

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Is the period "within six months after the discovery" agreed upon by those in a position to know whether it is a satisfactory period?

The COLONIAL TREASURER—Six months is a very long time after discovery.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—If there is a reasonable excuse, the penalty would not be attached.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Reasonable excuse is provided for in 20 (a.)

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—Six months is not too short.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Six months is a long time. The clause was passed as framed.

On clause 6,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said no definition of marketable security appeared in the Imperial Act, and he moved that the following section be inserted: "In this Ordinance unless the text otherwise requires the expression marketable security means security of such description as is capable of being sold in the stock markets in the United Kingdom and Hongkong."

The COLONIAL TREASURER—How could you compare the United Kingdom to Hongkong?

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Singapore and Shanghai have very big markets of stocks unsaleable in Hongkong.

HIS EXCELLENCY suggested that the section should be altered to read "in any stock market."

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I think if you cut out the words "United Kingdom" and leave Hongkong it will do.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Shanghai people can buy in Hongkong.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—And Shanghai stock is capable of being sold here.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The Home Act says "marketable in the United Kingdom."

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—You could not sell Consols in Hongkong.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—Put down the word Hongkong. This is a Hongkong law. The other is a law of the United Kingdom.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Then if marketable security is not negotiable in Hongkong you don't get probate on it?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—No.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—I should like to understand that, sir. On shares in companies here sold in Shanghai you don't claim probate, is that it?

The COLONIAL TREASURER—It is not a case of probate at all. This section deals with conveyance duty.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Is that the effect of the amendments?

The COLONIAL TREASURER—The question is one of giving marketable security as part of the return for a conveyance.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—It must be based on the Hongkong market just as the sum calculated at home is on the United Kingdom market.

The clause was adopted.

Council then resumed.

THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Code of Civil Procedure." In doing so he said—The object of this amendment is to restore the right of either party to ask for a jury in civil causes, which right existed between the passing of the Hongkong Code of Civil Procedure in the year 1873 and the passing in the year 1901 of the Code of Civil Procedure, which repealed the earlier code.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, the amendment in the law by which the right of trial by jury is extended to all class of cases originates in a memorial received by me from the British members of the Chamber of Commerce. I sent that memorial to the Chief Justice for his comments upon it, and both he and the Puisne Judge opposed the change in the law. His Honour the Chief Justice gave reasons and explained the various instances in which a jury had been refused in recent times. He also made some very definite objections, which, in his view, were opposed to the change contemplated. I sent his letter to the British members of the Chamber of Commerce and they replied in the following terms to me: The principal reason that has led the British members of the Chamber of Commerce unanimously to support the proposed Bill is that from all quarters they have received indications leading them to the conclusion that the public of this Colony consider it of vital importance to their interests that a jury should be obtainable if applied for by either party to a suit. They said that they had again considered the matter by the light of the arguments of the Chief Justice and that they were still unanimously of opinion that the law should be changed as proposed. I referred the question also to the Hongkong Law Society, who supported the proposed change in the law, and I

may add that the Hon. Mr. Pollock, who is a legal unofficial member of this Council and who is not present here to-day to state his view, was strongly in favour of this change. There must, of course, in any alteration of a law on so important a point be several dissentients in so large a community as this, and I have received a statement of objections from a leading barrister in this Colony and I believe that one or two unofficial members also intend to oppose the motion. The only reason why this Bill is introduced into the Council is because I believed, and still believe, it is the wish of the large majority of the community of Hongkong that this change should be made. I feel, however, very strongly that any change by which either enlargement or curtailment of the rights of trial by jury should be effected in the law is one of such vital importance, and affects a principle which is considered by British citizens as of such importance that it should not be introduced unless there is an undoubted majority in favour of it. It is based upon no ephemeral cause and upon no popular phase of the feeling of the moment or of the day. If those who oppose this motion can show that they have any considerable portion of the community who think with them, it will be open to us to consider what course should be taken.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—If the object of this Bill had been to reduce the number of cases in which special juries can be requisitioned, a good reason for that would have at once suggested itself in the smallness of the special jury list. That might reasonably have been used as an argument to justify the law of this Colony being made to depart from the law of England. But in view of the fact that our special jury list is a very small one, and that the time of every man upon it is valuable, the proposal to depart from the existing law in the direction of adding to the number of cases in which a special jury may be called, requires the strongest reasons. Your Excellency has supplied strong reasons for the action taken by the Government in introducing this Bill, and from the suitors' point of view explanation is easy. We can all, I am sure, appreciate the advantage of being tried by our peers. But inasmuch as it has been found necessary in the very home of trial by jury to set certain limits upon the claims of suitors, special jurors here may reasonably ask to have very good reason shown why these limits should be abolished in the Colony. I remember a time, which does not seem very long ago, when special jurors groaned under the tyranny imposed upon them by the requirements of litigation. Then one heard only about the hardship of busy men being required to abandon their offices for days together in busy times, and the existing law is the result of an attempt made to remedy this state of matters in a sense diametrically opposed to the present Bill. I am inclined to think that if you pass this Bill and there should occur a run of special jury cases you might hear that outcry again. I do not feel sure that there is any widespread demand for the proposed alteration, and until I am satisfied upon that point I shall not see my way to support this Bill. I suggest the postponement of the second reading in order that the feeling of the general public towards it may be properly gauged.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Your Excellency, I did not propose to say anything on this Bill, because I hoped that the Bill would be accepted by the whole Council after the remarks made by your Excellency, and the very satisfactory reason we have heard why it is required in this Colony. However, having listened to the remarks made by the hon. member who represents the Justices of the Peace, I can only express my great regret that such a speech has been made by him. I certainly gave the hon. member credit—which I think in most cases he fully deserves of being public spirited. I do not suppose for a moment that he would have shirked his duty if called to serve upon a jury, and that is partly where the shoe pinches.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—I am exempt.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Is he exempt?

Hon. Mr. STEWART—As a member of this Council.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Anyway, members of the special jury very often give up their time because they are public spirited and realize

their responsibility to the community. One of the most important functions performed here by business men is on the jury. The question has not been rushed through at a moment's notice, as those who care to inquire into the matter have known for months past that leading bodies and associations here have been asked by the Government to express their views on the subject. I can say that there is no body of men whose time is more valuable than the committee of the Chamber of Commerce, and that committee as well as the British members are unanimously in favour of this change of law for reasons I do not feel called upon to go into now, but which I think are very thoroughly understood. In certain matters the English law should not be rigidly adhered to. This Bill has not only the unanimous support of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce and a large number of the British members, but I am told that it has almost the unanimous support of the legal profession. It seems to me that when a considerable number of people representing the Chamber of Commerce and the legal profession are in favour of the Bill that it should be accepted and when only two judges are provided for the Full Court in Hongkong, it is obvious we cannot in every case accept the law as applied at Home. I trust that the opposition which has been raised to this Bill by the hon. member on my right will not prevent the Bill from being carried through its second reading this afternoon, as the matter is of great importance to the commercial prosperity of the Colony.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Sir, neither did I intend to speak on this Bill, because it had escaped my attention. But it has a historical and a personal interest to me in that I was the foreman of the jury that represented to Sir John Carrington the great hardship entailed upon busy men of this community sitting very often for many days listening to arguments of counsel on points of law and deciding evidence which could much better be settled by the judge. The alteration in the law was made in consequence of representations which the jury then made to Sir John Carrington, who promised that he would represent to Government the hardships that were entailed, and he also advised us to hold a public meeting to protest. Shortly afterwards one of the most widely-attended public meetings was held in the City Hall protesting against the waste of time entailed upon busy men in this Colony sitting in Court for days listening to points of law and deciding questions which could be better decided by the judge. The particular case which we had the misfortune to try and to sit for several days over was a trade mark case on condensed milk, a squabble between rival merchants. Another instance which led to the alteration of the law was a case in which a jury was empanelled—I was one—and we sat, I think, a whole morning listening to a point of law being argued between two learned counsel. We then suggested to the judge that perhaps he would allow us to retire until the learned counsel had decided what the law was. (Laughter.) The learned judge was kind enough to allow us to retire, and we have never met since. (Laughter.) Now, sir, those are the kind of things which irritate the community. (Hon. Mr. Stewart—Hear, hear.) It is not a question of shirking one's duty—(hear, hear)—and no Britisher in the Colony has the slightest desire to shirk his duty in a criminal case. (Hear, hear.) But I think that every Britisher and everyone else distinctly objects to wasting his time over these trivial matters. If this Bill, sir, is passed, I prophesy that within a short period another public meeting will be held and your Excellency will be asked again to amend the law because the community is far too busy to have its time taken up in deciding trade mark cases. I have much pleasure in supporting the hon. member on my right in opposing this Bill, and I hope your Excellency will not endeavour to pass it through its third reading, so that the public may have an opportunity of considering the measure.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Your Excellency, it is not proposed to go further with this Bill.

SQUATTERS' ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Squatters' Ordinance, 1890." In

doing so he said—This Bill amends section 12 of the Squatters' Ordinance. In certain cases squatters' claims have been allowed by the Board, but it has been deemed desirable to withhold the leases until sanitary buildings have been constructed, and it is now proposed to give the Director of Public Works the alternative power of arranging for the grant of new sites in exchange for the original buildings. If the arrangement is effected, the amount of compensation is to be assessed by the Director of Public Works.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Council then went into Committee, and after considering the Bill clause by clause resumed.

EXEMPTION OF CROWN LEASES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to exempt Crown Leases granted in respect of Foreshore and submerged land in the New Territories from a certain condition imposed under the Foreshore and Seabed Ordinance, 1901." In doing so he said—The Foreshore and Seabed Ordinance, 1901, requires the Crown leases proposed to be granted in respect of foreshores or seabed should *inter alia* be published in the *Gazette* for one month. The Bill proposes to dispense with this condition as regards the New Territories, where the *Gazette* is seldom seen and the cost is deemed unnecessary. The other conditions of the Foreshores and Seabed Ordinance, 1891, requiring the publication in Chinese of the terms of such lease by publicly posting them near the site of the property are not affected by the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Council then went into Committee and considered the Bill clause by clause.

On resuming,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1933, and the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance 1909." In doing so he said—This Ordinance provides penalties for the violation of the Ordinances relating to wireless telegraphy.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Council then went into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On resuming,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ORDER AND CLEANLINESS ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Order and Cleanliness Ordinance, 1867." In doing so he said—Under a Government notification made under section 3 of Ordinance 8, of 1887, a fee of \$10 has been charged for licences to money-changers, whereas this part of that Ordinance does not apply to the New Territories, and a fee of \$5 should have been charged under section 3 of Ordinance 7, of 1867. The Bill proposes to increase the charge imposed under the last-named Ordinance to \$10 and to legalise the collections heretofore made.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Council then went into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On resuming,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the Bill be read a third time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDINANCES AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a new Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1898, and the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1908, and to repeal the Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1902." In doing so he said—The principal feature of this Bill is to transfer from the Justices as a body to a Licensing Board consisting of seven Justices, the control of publicans and adjunct licences. Recognizances

are to be done away with. The terms of the said recognizance are (1) To observe the conditions of the licence; (2) To observe the requirements of the Ordinance. Omissions of both of these are offences against the Ordinance by section 37 of the Transfer Ordinance: Adjunct licences are to be divided into two classes, hotelkeepers' adjunct licences and restaurant-keepers' adjunct licences. Wholesale and grocers' licences are abolished, and there is established a dealer's licence. Section 3, prohibits the sale and importation of liquor on commission without a licence. The section which is new is introduced with a view of protecting the trade. The conditions of a publican's licence, and of the two forms of adjunct licence, appear in the Bill. The Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, of 1902, is repealed, and a new scale of fees is set out in the second schedule to this Bill. Section 8 of the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1908, which enacts that the expenses of advertising applications for licences should be paid by the applicant is repealed. The applicant is required to pay for the advertisements by section 5 subsection 13 of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, the Bill before the Council abolishes the existing method of granting licences for publicans, and for adjunct licencees, and it substitutes for it a Licensing Board consisting of seven Justices partly elected and partly nominated, and with a considerable unofficial majority. The object of this Bill has been stated by the hon. the Attorney-General, it appears in the minute at the foot of the Bill, and it was dealt with at greater length in a paper which was laid before this Council at our last meeting. Its object is that a body may be instituted who may have a permanent policy—a policy which can be carried into operation by successive instalments, if so desired, all making for a definite objective. This Bill is in substitution for a Bill which has been before the Council for some considerable time. In that Bill the permanent body proposed was the Governor-in-Council, but that proposal I understand was not acceptable, and, therefore, the present Bill has been substituted for it. The object which we have in view in establishing a permanent board is twofold. On the one hand it is desired to secure to the taxpayers of this Colony the monopoly value of the publicans' and adjunct licences and to prevent that public asset being claimed as a right by the holders of the licence by declaring, for instance, a period at which any or all may be terminated without compensation. In the second place it is desired by this method to facilitate public house reform. For instance, if it should be feasible to place some or all of the public houses under a trust company whose profits would be limited and any profits from the business, in excess of those should be devoted to the improvement of the public house, that the manager should be placed on a fixed salary so that he should have no personal interest in promoting the sale of liquor. These, however, are only possible projects for the future and do not arise at present. The object of the Bill is to create a permanent board to deal with the question of licensing. The present system by which licences are issued by the general body of the Justices of the Peace cannot be said to have worked very well in the past. I find that 176 Justices of the Peace in the last ten years have never attended. The total number of Justices of the Peace is 239. The attendances in the last ten years number 117, which gives an average of half an attendance a year, or, in other words, one attendance in every two years. The other provisions of the Bill have already been touched upon by my hon. friend the Attorney-General. Adjunct licences it is proposed to divide into two classes, one for hotel-keepers and one for restaurant-keepers. Various restrictions are placed upon them which partly appear in the body of the Bill and partly in the forms attached, and it is hoped by these restrictions that the abuses which are alleged to have existed under the present system will be abolished. Wholesale and grocers' licences also will be abolished, and a dealer's licence will be substituted prohibiting sales by commission in order to protect the interests of licencees. The right to appeal against the decision of the Licensing Board is also included in the Bill.

appeal on behalf of the applicant and on behalf of the residents in the district, to the Governor-in-Council. The resolution which has remained on the agenda of the Council for some considerable time past, has now been withdrawn and is re-incorporated as a second schedule to this Bill. You will find from it that the fees in certain instances have been decreased. It is proposed that those who have already taken out licences under the existing regulations shall have the option of exchanging them for licences under the new Bill if they should desire to do so; of course, coming under the restrictions which that Bill imposes.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—As member for the Justices I feel called upon to give an opinion on the principle of this Bill. To the Bill which it supercedes I was strongly opposed. Your Excellency may remember that at an interview granted to the Unofficial Members at Government House, in the summer, I expressed myself in that sense. That Bill proposed to take the licensing out of the hands of the Justices. This Bill proposes instead to concentrate the power at present rather loosely exercised by them. The only question raised is whether these powers are best exercised as at present, or whether they are more likely to be effectively exercised when concentrated in a Board. The present system is said to be cumbersome. Under it few Justices attend the meetings called, as your Excellency's figures prove. Sometimes the suggestion is made that this shows lack of public spirit. I deny that in my own case. The reason why I attend so seldom is because the meetings are called at an inconvenient place and at a most inconvenient time. This puts an unwarranted strain upon public spirit. Most of the local Justices are men busily engaged in the business quarter of the town. If meetings had been usually called for 5 o'clock instead of 2.15, and in the City Hall instead of at the Magistracy, I think there are others besides myself who would have attended regularly. Thus the main defect alleged against the old system is no necessary part of it. It could have been remedied at any time if the Police Magistrate had been anxious to encourage attendance. But there was no pressing reason for trying to remedy it so long as such a small quorum was held to be sufficient. The smallness of the quorum is the real defect in the present system. This was to be remedied, I understood, in the present Bill. It has not been. A quorum of three is proposed. To my mind that threatens the object in view. I would not have less than five. It may be urged that if you left the present system otherwise unchanged, and made a quorum of say, seven, the object of the Bill would be served, but I think that members of a board would be more likely to exhibit keenness than a chance lot of Justices haphazardly come together, and I agree that a Board is better fitted to pursue a settled policy. Therefore, I am in favour of the principle of a Licensing Board. How the Justices are to be elected, and for how long, and who will act as Secretary, these and sundry other details do not yet seem clear, but these are all matters properly to be dealt with in the Committee stage of the Bill. I agree to the principle and shall accordingly vote for the second reading.

The motion was agreed to.

Council then went into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On clause 2,

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE asked—Why are confectioners allowed to sell intoxicating liquor?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—It is a term that occurs in the principal Ordinance, restaurant or confectioner.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—They are allowed to sell liquor at Home.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—They are at Home?

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—Yes. There is a shop in Regent Street.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—In the principal Ordinance an adjunct licence is defined as meaning a licence to hotelkeepers, restaurateurs, and confectioners. That Act is based on the Home Act. There might be a shop like Weissmann's started. That is a confectioner really, but it has started in the luncheon business.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—They are given an adjunct licence because they sell meals there.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—But their principal business is confectioners. It does not make any difference what you call them.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Supposing a man sold only sweetmeats?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Then he could not get a licence.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Then why put the word confectioner in?

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—A person could not take a meal off sweets.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—This is only an amending Bill, and as few amendments as possible should be introduced into it. I am not prepared to say if you cut out those words you won't have to amend the principal Ordinance in some further direction.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—Cut out the words. We don't want them.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—I move that the words "or confectioner" be cut out.

HIS EXCELLENCY—It does not seem to me to matter much whether the words are in or out, because a man has not got to prove that he is a restaurant-keeper before he gets a licence. I presume this licence could be obtained by any applicant who conforms to the remaining conditions of the Ordinance. It does not matter whether he is a restaurant-keeper, confectioner or bootmaker.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—In a confectioner's shop you may see a man taking a slice of cake and a glass of liquor.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—We don't want to encourage that.

The words mentioned were deleted.

On section 9.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the following amendment:—"All applications for the granting or transfer of licences shall be made to a board of licensing Justices, which board shall consist of a Chairman and Vice-Chairman appointed by the Government and five other Justices, two of whom shall be appointed by the Government and three elected by the Justices of the Peace from among their number. Of the four Justices appointed by the Government two shall be official and two shall be unofficial Justices. The members of the Board shall hold office for three years. Three Justices shall form a quorum. The first clerk at the Magistracy shall be *ex-officio* secretary to the Board."

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—That is to say that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are the nominees of the Government?

HIS EXCELLENCY—Yes.

Hon. Mr. STEWART moved that five should form a quorum, instead of three as proposed.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE seconded, and the amendment was accepted.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE asked if the meeting place would be decided by the Justices?

HIS EXCELLENCY—It was not considered necessary to mention that in the Ordinance. That will be in the power of the Chairman, and it might be here or at the Magistracy.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Or in the new Post Office.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Is the secretary provided for?

HIS EXCELLENCY—Yes, the chief clerk at the Magistracy will be permanent secretary.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Is there no provision as to the method for electing the three Justices? You elect three for three years, but there will always be somebody going away for a time. Provision ought to be made for substitution.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I would suggest that the mode of election should be the same as in nominating a member for this Council. There should be the same power of electing a substitute when any Justice is leaving the Colony.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Adopt the mode of election in the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—In the case of an elected Justice not giving satisfaction to the people who elected him, if we adopted the suggestion of the Colonial Treasurer it would be very difficult to get him out.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY suggested that the section in the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance governing the election of the Sanitary Board should be extracted and added to this Bill.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—I think it would help people to take an interest in it if there were occasional elections.

The addition was accepted and the section approved.

On clause 5,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed a new sub-section, which provided that in the event of the refusal of an application by the Licensing Board the applicant should not be entitled to make another application in respect of the same premises within a period of twelve months of the original application.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Shouldn't it be if the Governor-in-Council has approved of the Justices' decision? The Justices may decide not to grant a man a licence, and that debars him from making another application. If the Governor-in-Council reverses the Justices' decision, surely a man can make another application.

HIS EXCELLENCY—It does not debar him from making an appeal. It debars him from making another application.

The new sub-section was approved.

On sub-section 15,

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Can you give us any idea how the standard of quality is to be fixed?

HIS EXCELLENCY—I am not prepared to say, but any suggestions that may be made will be considered.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—We naturally want to know what the section means. I should imagine it would be a very difficult thing to put on the label of the bottle. Apparently the evil properties in spirit have mainly to do with the age. Whisky that to-day may be poison five years hence will be no longer poison.

HIS EXCELLENCY—That would form one class of quality. If the label said the bottle was five years old.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—That is no proof. You can only judge of the effect when you administer to a man.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—You can make a standard I believe which the raw spirit will not pass.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I am afraid this clause is really in the nature of a pious wish.

On the second schedule,

Hon. Dr. HO KAI said His Excellency had just stated that in a few cases fees had been decreased, but none of them had been increased.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied that some of the publicans' fees had been increased. Chinese licences had not been affected, but adjunct licences were reduced in some cases.

HIS EXCELLENCY said the general effect of the scale was a reduction so far as European liquor was concerned, but the publicans' licences went up to a higher scale than they did before.

Council then resumed.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Council will adjourn until next Thursday.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the COLONIAL SECRETARY presiding. The following votes were passed:—

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred dollars (\$100) in aid of the vote, Colonial Secretary's Department and Legislature, Other Charges, for the following:—

Incidental expenses	...	\$50
Newspapers, periodicals, etc.,	...	50

Total, ... \$100

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of sixty dollars and seventy-two cents (60.72) in aid of the vote, Medical Departments, Hospitals and Asylums, Other Charges, Drawings of the *Lispa Sinensis* Fly (5 guineas).

The Board of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce at Peking propose to establish a Government Tea Factory in Hankow on the same lines as those of the Russians. It is also intended to float a tea company with a view to recovering the business from the foreigners. Officials have been appointed to make enquiries and a scheme will be drawn up on their report and submitted to the Throne for approval.

A DISPUTED MAGISTERIAL RULING.

STRONG PROTEST BY THE CROWN SOLICITOR.

The case in which Lam Fuk Chiu is charged with obtaining the sum of \$24,000 from Mr. John Hastings by false pretences was again called in Mr. Wood's Court at the Magistracy yesterday, when Mr. W. E. L. Shenton (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared to apply for the discharge of the defendant. Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, represented the Crown.

Mr. Bowley informed the Court that there appeared to be a certain amount of misunderstanding in the case, and he believed that Sergeant Grant brought the man before the Court on the previous morning. The speaker should have been communicated with before the man appeared before his Worship, and then he would have attended. But he was not communicated with, and knew nothing about the case until late on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Shenton acted under a mistaken view of the position in communicating with Messrs. Hastings and Hastings.

His Worship—I asked him to.

Mr. Bowley—Your Worship did not understand the position. The fault lay in the police not communicating with me.

His Worship—You are representing Mr. Hastings in this prosecution?

Mr. Bowley—No, I am representing the King.

His Worship—I will put your name in place of Mr. Hastings on the record.

Mr. Bowley—The King is prosecutor, and I appear as his attorney. The fact that Mr. John Hastings' name is on the record is due to the accidental fact that Mr. John Hastings in the first instance swore the information on which the warrant was issued. Having laid the information and brought the matter before the Court, he has nothing further to do with the proceedings if those proceedings are adopted by the Crown, as they have been in this case. As your Worship knows very well, a warrant may be issued on the information of any person. This is an indictable offence, and a very serious offence, with which the defendant is charged, and the informant is not the prosecutor.

His Worship—Mr. Hastings is the informant?

Mr. Bowley—Yes.

His Worship—The question I want to get at is, who is the prosecutor?

Mr. Bowley—The King, your Worship, and I represent him. The Crown can intervene in any prosecution being conducted by a private person and adopt it. I submit that these proceedings are perfectly regular. The man is before your Worship, and I ask you to remand him to gaol for a reasonable time, subject to any application being made for bail.

His Worship asked if Mr. Davidson (who was present) was representing Mr. Hastings.

Mr. Bowley said Mr. Davidson was one of the most important witnesses in the case. The question arose out of a forged mortgage, and a large number of persons were implicated. As it happened, the forged mortgage was put through by Messrs. Hastings and Hastings, and Mr. Davidson was the solicitor who attended to the completion of it. He submitted that Mr. John Hastings was not entitled to be represented in the matter now, as he (the Crown Solicitor) had taken it over. Mr. Hastings was only entitled to engage any qualified person to watch the proceedings on his behalf, and Mr. Davidson, he took it, was present for that purpose.

His Worship—I understand Mr. Hastings' is not represented here?

Mr. Bowley—No.

Mr. Shenton—This was a private prosecution by Mr. John Hastings.

Mr. Bowley—I don't admit anything of the sort. This prosecution was instituted by the police under the directions of the Government.

Mr. Shenton drew his Worship's attention to Ordinance No. 3 of 1890, section 14, subsection 2, and contended that the complainant or informant must appear. Unless he did, his Worship must dismiss the charge. It was perfectly open to Mr. Bowley to lay an informa-

tion on behalf of the Crown, but certainly the informant or complainant must appear.

His Worship—Mr. Hastings is not before me now.

Mr. Shenton—Not now.

His Worship—Therefore, Mr. Hastings' absence does not affect the matter.

Mr. Shenton—But the record must be altered.

His Worship—The question is, what alteration am I to make? Mr. Bowley suggests that the alteration should be the King, represented by the Crown Solicitor.

Mr. Bowley—I don't suggest anything of the sort. The section my friend read does not refer to indictable proceedings at all. It must be read in a reasonable way, and it would be utterly unreasonable for your Worship to read this provision about the complainant not appearing in cases where the Crown prosecutes. I think the correct way of reading it is that the Crown is complainant, but if your Worship will strike out the name of Mr. Hastings, I do not mind whose name you insert. I appear as attorney for the King, not as complainant or informant.

His Worship—The point is whether it is regular for the King to appear.

Mr. Shenton—The King never does demean himself to prosecute his own subjects.

Mr. Bowley—He is always represented by his attorney. I submit these objections are moonshine and perfectly frivolous, and in order to save time you can enter anyone you like as complainant.

His Worship—I will enter your name as complainant.

Mr. Bowley—As your Worship pleases.

His Worship—I will amend the record by substituting Mr. Bowley's name.

Mr. Bowley—The Crown Solicitor, if your Worship pleases.

His Worship—Your personal name.

Mr. Bowley—No, your Worship. I appear as Crown Solicitor, not as Mr. Bowley. The information should be in the same way as it is given at the Supreme Court. "The Court is informed by the Attorney-General on behalf of our Sovereign Lord the King," and should not contain a personal name.

His Worship—That is always done at the Police Court.

Mr. Bowley—In the course of my experience at the Police Court, which extends over a considerable period, I have never seen the name of the Crown Solicitor appearing.

His Worship—Whoever prosecutes, prosecutes in a personal capacity.

Mr. Bowley—I prosecute in my official capacity.

His Worship—The difficulty is that the King is not appeared by anybody.

Mr. Bowley—He is appeared by himself, if your Worship pleases.

Mr. Shenton—The section says that the informant or complainant must appear before the Court.

His Worship—Section 14 (2) clearly gives me power to put this man back in jail.

Mr. Shenton—Only temporarily.

His Worship—I am not clear on the point whether the prosecutor must appear or not.

Mr. Bowley—I ask your Worship to remand the prisoner, and in due course to take the evidence I tender on behalf of the King. I demand that as a right, and I submit that the Crown is entitled to a little consideration in these matters.

His Worship—I will hear the application to-morrow. What time will suit you, Mr. Bowley?

Mr. Bowley—No time to-morrow. I am engaged all day.

His Worship—I will remand this application until 11.30 to-morrow morning.

Mr. Bowley—What application?

His Worship—To consider the discharge of the man on the ground that the King is not appearing or represented in his own name, or that the prosecutor is not appearing.

Mr. Bowley—I might inform your Worship that I protest against these proceedings absolutely and entirely, and shall take what steps I may be advised by the Attorney-General to alter the proceedings and to apply for a mandamus to order this Court to conduct the proceedings in accordance with the law.

Mr. Shenton—I would ask if your Worship will consider bail?

His Worship—Not at this stage.

The hearing was adjourned.

A FULL COURT DECISION REVERSED.

News has reached the Colony that the Privy Council has reversed the decision of the Hongkong Full Court, consisting of His Hon. Sir Francis Piggott (Chief Justice) and His Hon. Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz (Puisne Judge), in the action between the Russo-Chinese Bank and Li Yau Sam.

The plaintiff Bank sought to reverse the decision of His Hon. the Chief Justice on the ground that he had misdirected the jury.

The plaintiff in the original action, Li Yau Sam v. the Russo-Chinese Bank, gave 30,000 taels to the compradore of the defendant bank for telegraphic transfer to Shanghai, and the compradore, instead of handing the money to the bank, converted it to his own use. Plaintiff sought to recover from the bank, but the latter denied that it had any knowledge of the claim, and contended that the transaction was between the plaintiff and the compradore.

Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. J. Gedge (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) represented the appellants, while Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) was the counsel for the respondents.

ALLEGED LARCENY OF A RING.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on the 6th inst. a Chinese named Mok Mau Sik was proceeded a ainst on a charge of stealing a diamond ring.

Mr. M. Reader Harris (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) prosecuted, and Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell) appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Harris told the Court that on August 30th complainant gave the ring in question, which was valued at \$600, to his sister, and asked her to try to find a purchaser. On September 9th she handed the ring to the defendant, who told her he had a friend who would probably buy it. Some days later when complainant asked for the return of the ring he was told that it was in pawn, and the defendant asked to be given time to redeem it.

Mr. Goldring asked to be shown the information on which the defendant was arrested.

His Worship declined to produce this.

Mr. Goldring asked his Worship under what Ordinance he refused, and further wished to know why there was a discrepancy between the warrant and the evidence. He submitted that the defendant was entitled to see the information.

His Worship said he was entitled to see the warrant, but not the information.

Evidence was then called, and the hearing adjourned.

A FATAL LEAP.

When Sergeant Kendall, in charge of a posse of police, executed a gambling warrant at No. 17, Moon Street, second floor, on Wednesday night, the gamblers took fright, and one of fourteen men, in order to escape the police, jumped over the verandah. On landing on the ground, beneath he fell back on his head, and received such injuries as to cause almost immediate death. The other thirteen men arrested were charged before Mr. E. R. Hallifax at the Magistracy yesterday, and the two keepers of the game were fined \$50 each, and each of the players was mulcted in the sum of \$3.

BUILDING COLLAPSE.

LADIES' NARROW ESCAPE.

Mrs. and Miss Schmidt, who reside on the second floor of No. 5, Beaconsfield Arcade, had a narrow escape from a violent death yesterday morning through the roof of their bedroom collapsing. Two large beams, which are said to have been badly damaged by white ants, collapsed at the eastern side of the ceiling, and it was owing to the fact that the ladies' bed was on the western side of the room that they escaped serious injury and probable death. The beams fell in such a manner as to act as a shield to the sleepers, and thus they were secure from the falling debris. Neighbours hastened to their assistance and the ladies were extricated considerably frightened, but unharmed.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, December 6th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. W. REES DAVIES,
K. C. (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

UNSATISFACTORY RICE CONTRACTS.

The action was continued in which the Hang Sing firm sued Messrs. W. R. Loxley and Co. to recover the sum of 4,274, being balance due for rice sold and delivered, while the defendants counter claimed \$3,727.44, for breach by the plaintiffs of the terms of their contracts.

Mr. Eldon Potter, instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, appeared for the plaintiffs, while defendants were represented by Mr. M. W. Slade, who was instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (of Messrs. Dennys and Bowley).

His Lordship having delivered a ruling on the subject of the quality of the rice, said he saw no reason to reject the evidence of the consignees taken in South Africa.

Mr. Slade then resumed his opening statement and said they would prove that all the rice put on board the *Kut Sang* by Hang Sing got to South Africa. They would produce every bill of lading with one exception, and they would show that the identical bags of rice which were put on board at Hongkong reached South Africa and were examined by the consignees. That was the first examination possible after Hang Sing had put the rice on board in purported fulfilment of his contract. The evidence given in South Africa, both by the consignees themselves and by the surveyors appointed to examine the rice was that the rice did not answer the mercantile description of No. 1 Siam rice. The rice shipped was neither according to description nor sample.

Evidence taken *de bene esse* in South Africa was afterwards read and the hearing adjourned.

Tuesday, December 7th.

Mr. Slade was proceeding to indicate in detail the shipments of rice under the contract, when His Lordship enquired whether Mr. Potter admitted that the number of bags was correctly set forth in the schedule.

Mr. Potter—Yes, my lord. Subject to proof that this was the actual rice received in South Africa I will accept the shipment.

His Lordship—And this schedule applies to all the rice both in respect to the claim and the counter-claim?

Mr. Slade—Yes, my lord.

Mr. Potter—All I am concerned with is that my friend should identify the rice we put on board here as the rice received in South Africa.

Mr. Slade—Do you admit the transshipments? We have all the bills of lading.

Mr. Potter—That is the whole point. I certainly do not. You want me to admit the transshipments, and then you will say that if it was all right up to Durban it was all right up to Port Elizabeth.

Mr. Slade—If it was all right on board ship it was all right at Durban.

Mr. Potter—Not at all.

Mr. Slade—My friend is apparently contending that the rice was shifted on the route.

Mr. Potter—No I am not.

Mr. Slade—Do you admit the marks on the bags?

Mr. Potter—We admit that a Chinaman put some stencil marks on the bags, but we do not admit knowledge of what the marks were.

Mr. Slade—What blissful ignorance!

Mr. Potter—You may call it blissful ignorance or anything else.

Mr. Slade—Bland ignorance, we will call it.

Mr. Potter—Substitute any other adjective you like, it is quite immaterial.

The hearing was again adjourned.

The concluding step in respect to opium houses in the Settlement of Shanghai, that is to say, the closing of the last remaining quarter of the houses, will take place as pre-arranged on December 31. It has been therefore decided to issue a notification, drawing attention to the fact as a warning to the concerned.

NAVAL WEDDING AT ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

BECKWITH—PINCK.

A pretty wedding, celebrated with naval honours, took place at St John's Cathedral, on Wednesday afternoon when Lieutenant Charles William Malbeyse Beckwith, R.N., was married to Florence Harvey, daughter of Dr. William Pinck, Dearnley, Lancashire. No little interest was manifested in the event, and the large congregation which attended at the Cathedral included His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry and Lady May, Commodore and Mrs. Lyon and a number of naval and military officers.

Lieutenant Beckwith served on the China Station as navigating officer to Admiral Sir Gerard Noel in his flagship the *Diadem*, and came to Hongkong in 1906 as Acting Harbourmaster, being appointed in September last Superintendent of Imports and Exports under the new Liquor Ordinance.

The bride, charmingly attired in an Empire gown of soft white Liberty satin, yoke and sleeves of tucked chiffon and silk lace and a panelled train edged with pearl trimming, entered the church on the arm of Mr. J. R. M. Smith, who gave her away. Her beautiful bouquet was made by Mr. Geo. Caldwell, through the kindness of Major Macdonald. She was attended by the Misses Iris and Dione May and Miss Badeley, daintily attired and carrying bouquets of pink roses, while the bridegroom, who wore his naval uniform, was supported by Captain Mitchell Taylor, A.D.C., as best man. His Lordship the Bishop of Victoria, assisted by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, conducted the service, which was fully choral, Mr. Denman Fuller presiding at the organ. The hymns sung were "The Voice that breathed o'er Eden" and "O perfect love," and after the bridal party had returned from the vestry they passed down the aisle under an arch of steel formed by the naval and military officers crossing their swords, and left the church to the strains of Mendelssohn's Wedding March. The church bells rang out their merriest peal, and the party made their way to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. M. Smith, St. John's Place, where the reception was held.

Afterwards the newly-wedded couple left in the launch *Stanley* for Macao, where the honeymoon is to be spent. The bride's going away costume was of powder blue-faced cloth. Empire gown, braid to match with yoke sleeves and tucked net of real guipure lace. She wore a black crinoline hat trimmed with panne velvet and ostrich feather.

The bride's gift to the bridegroom was gold sleeve links with cross, and the bridegroom's gift to the bride was a silver iris toilet set, and his gifts to the bridesmaids were naval crown brooches of turquoise and pearls.

The following is a list of the presents:—

His Excellency the Governor, silver salver.
Bishop and Mrs. Lander, Chinese antique bowl.
Capt. Mitchell Taylor, silver bowl.
Mrs. Savory, box glass.
Commodore Lyon, silver liqueur cups.
Mrs. Loring, carvers.
Mr. O'gh, coffee pot.
Mr. and Mrs. Paxton, silver pot stand.
Mr. and Mrs. Mackie, silver sauce bowl and silver tray.
Commander and Mrs. Taylor, Japanese screen.
Mr. C. Clementi, Thermos flask.
Captains Beazley, Simson, Brierley and Dwyer, silver cigar box.
Mrs. Gresson, silver sauce bowl.
Mr. Fleming, silver claret jug.
Mr. Lafrentz, table.
Dr. and Mrs. Forsyth, silver cigarette box.
Sir Henry Berkeley, silver cigarette box.
Captain Mitchell, Cago dressing table set.
Mr. and Mrs. Hastings, brass bowl and stand.
Hon. Mr. Hazeland, two blackwood stools.
Mr. and Mrs. Oakley, brass bowl and stand.
Messrs. Fletcher and Wodehouse, silver box.
Staff of Harbour Office, inscribed blackwood and silver tray.
Mr. A. E. Wood, ivory paper knife.
Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Brewin, blackwood table.
Mr. and Mrs. Eves, silver photo frame.
Mrs. Dooner, silver ash tray.
Lieut. Bedwell, -atsuma pot.
Lieut. Herbert, silver salt cellars.
Dr. Hartley, three silver dishes.
Mr. and Mrs. Morley, silk embroidered table centres.
Messrs. Falconer and Co., barometer.
Lady May, two silver candlesticks.
Major and Mrs. Camerini, silver carvers.
Staff Surgeon and Mrs. Baise, silver and pearl fruit dishes.
Captain Clinton Baker and Commander Lewis, R.N., silver bowl.

Mr. Hodgson, Thermos flask.
Mr. R. Master, silver photo frame.
Mr. and Mrs. Milroy, silver photo frame.
Lieut. and Mrs. Butterworth, silver spoons.
Mr. and Mrs. Eaton, incense burner.
Major Coube, Mr. Scarlett and Mr. Potter, silver cigarette case.
Captain and Mrs. Worthington, silver card case.
Mr. A. Bavington, sideboard.
Mr. J. Hewetson, set dining room (?).
Mrs. Basely, opium stool.
Mrs. Melbourne, silver tray.
Mr. Atkinson, tea-poy.
Mr. and Mrs. Looker, silver spoons.
Dr. Fitz-Williams, cruet set.
Hon. Mr. Rees-Davies, flower vases.
Mrs. Law, silver bowl.
Mr. P. M. Hodgson, Thermos flask.
Govt. Marine Surveyors, Queen Anne tea set.
Messrs. Ross and Tratman, silver bon-bon dishes.
Mr. H. P. White, silver salt cellars.
Mr. D. Macdonald, fish knives and forks.
Mr. Mc'I. Messe, set of silver menu card holders and silver cake basket.
Lieut. Selby, silver salt cellars.
Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart, silver dessert knives and forks.
Mrs. Ede, blackwood photo frame.
Mr. Silva, silk cushion.
Mr. Chan She, silver flower stand.
Mr. E. W. Buchanan, cloisonne bowl.
Mr. Justice Gompertz, antique silver trinket box.

FRENCH CONVENT BAZAAR.

The annual bazaar promoted by the Sisters of the French Convent took place on Thursday, and as usual the charitable object—assisting the orphans of the Asile de la Sainte Enfant—appealed to quite a number of patrons, with the result that there was a good attendance in the course of the afternoon. Unfortunately His Excellency the Governor, who was to have opened the bazaar, was unable to be present at two o'clock, but he attended later and inspected the fine exhibition of needle and fancy work made by the orphans. The feature most admired was perhaps the beautiful hand-embroidered work.

Lady May, Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Gresson, Mrs. Chamier and Miss Lyon had charge of the refreshment stall, and the ladies who assisted at the stalls were: Mesdames Gordon, Maitland, Ede, Moxon, G. Hastings, Stabb, Madame Berindoague, Frau Voretzsch, Frau Von Wiser, Mesdames Ormiston, Adamson, Harker, Jones Hughes, Evan Jones, Lammert, Grimble, Sethi, Hinds, Bell, Chapman, Bolles, Hocking, Thompson, Baiss, Northcote, Madame de Sieglas, Misses Sieb, Ella Rowe, Hughes, Chapman Hoffman, Harker, Penruddocke, and Grimble(2).

WELCOME TO Y. M. C. A. SECRETARY.

On Saturday night there was a pleasant little gathering at the Y. M. C. A. Rooms, Alexandra buildings, the occasion being a reception given in honour of Mr. G. E. Lerrigo, the new Association Secretary for Hongkong, and Mrs. Lerrigo. The programme had been arranged by Sir Henry and Lady May, a fact which speaks for its excellence, and the ladies and gentlemen present were treated to an agreeable entertainment in addition to making the acquaintance of Mr. and Mrs. Lerrigo. H. E. the Governor attended, and was accompanied by Captain Mitchell Taylor, A. D. C., and Captain Simson, private secretary.

After a few preliminary remarks by the President, Sir Henry May, the programme was opened by a recitation from Sir Henry, which was followed by Captain Taylor singing to the accompaniment of Captain Simson "Green Isle of Erin." Then Miss Stewart, who is passing through the Colony, contributed the "Promise of Life," which was sweetly sung, and Mr. Hose, a son of the former Bishop of Victoria, rendered "Three for Jack." Mr. Balloch, a local Scot, gave the Irish song, "Molly Carew." In the interval Mr. Lerrigo made a short speech. He expressed pleasure at the hearty reception accorded his wife and himself and indicated how favourable were their impressions of Hongkong. Mrs. Lerrigo, he said, was so charmed that she could not describe Hongkong, but he added she described California. The second part of the programme was opened by Captain Taylor singing "Songs of Araby." Miss Stewart gave "The birds go north again." Sir Henry May told a number of delightful Irish stories, Mr. Hose sang "Mistress Prue," and Mr. Balloch rendered "Drake's Drum." Refreshments were served during the evening.

EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS IN HONGKONG.

The Government's proposition to increase school fees is not well received by local Chinese, and a meeting of those interested at the Commercial Union decided to make a representation to the Government on the subject. Their views, so far as can be gathered, are set forth as follows:

(1) With the exception of private Chinese Schools and those established under the auspices of the Tung Wah Hospital and the Confucian Society, there is still no high Chinese School established by the Government. What have been established are Anglo-Chinese schools, in which the English language takes the leading part, so that Chinese boys, after obtaining a smattering of their own language, are transferred to these schools. The boys attending these schools belong mainly to the middle and lower classes, and the earnings of their parents are quite insignificant. If the school fees are increased, will it be detrimental to the interests of these people?

(2) As a rule the majority of the well-to-do Chinese send their sons to schools where high fees are charged, such as the Diocesan School and St. Stephen's. In so doing their object differs from that of the middle and lower classes. Being well off, they wish to educate their sons with a view to filling official positions, while the middle and lower classes can only give their sons an education which is just sufficient to enable them to earn a living. A high education naturally entails high costs, and were the fees of such schools not increased the well-to-do class would agitate for their increase. It would therefore matter little if the Government increased the fees in higher grade schools and did not do so in the case of the lower grade.

(3) Of all the schools opened by the Chinese, the Ellis Kadoorie is the only one which compares favourably with the Government schools. At the outset that school was intended solely for the middle and lower classes and no fee was charged, but through want of funds and the difficulty subsequently experienced in raising the same a nominal fee of two dollars per month has been charged, relying partly upon the annual grant made by the Government as a set-off against the expenses of the school. Further increase of the fee will be in conflict with the primary object of the promoters, but if the fee is not increased the Government may find an excuse to reduce the grant. How is this difficulty to be solved?

(4) It is the duty of the State to allot part of the revenue for educational purposes. If the Exchequer is at its ebb there is no reason why it should be replenished by taxing the schools, inasmuch as the revenue to be derived from increased fees cannot be a very great help to the Government, while the increased fees must inflict a hardship on those who have to pay them. The Government should effect a saving in directions other than education.

(5) As to the contention that a low fee may induce the Chinese to come from the mainland to be educated, and that there is no reason why the Colony should sacrifice its revenue for their sake, it should be remembered that there is no proper Anglo-Chinese School in the interior of China, excepting the American Missionary School and the Ellis Kadoorie School at Honan in Canton. The other scholastic establishments are for beginners. There the fees charged are about the same as in Hongkong, but house rent and food are cheaper, so that those who come down here to be educated do not come for the sake of cheap fees, but because the standard of education is higher. Moreover, most of the students who come here only do so because their fathers and relatives trade in Hongkong, and in such cases if they benefit by the Colony's revenue they are entitled to it, as they are taxpayers in common with others so long as they are residing in the Colony. Even if they had no relatives trading here when they come to reside in the Colony, they become taxpayers if not directly, indirectly. In short, the influx of students can be conducive only to the prosperity of the Colony. This is another point that should be taken into consideration.

[A leading article deals with this question.]

WANCHAI CHURCH. HONGKONG.

ANNUAL MISSIONARY MEETING.

The annual missionary meeting was held at Wanchai Wesleyan Church on Monday. This was the last of a series of meetings. All have been splendidly attended, the Church being quite full on Sunday night when Dr. Anderson preached on "The unsearchable riches of Christ." At the meeting on Monday there were about 200 persons present. Mr. J. C. Joughin took the chair. After the Rev. T. W. Scholes had led the meeting in prayer the Rev. J. A. A. Baker gave an outline of the growth of the work carried on by the Wesleyan Missionary Society for the past 96 years. The Methodist Churches in Canada and Australia, which are among the first in point of numbers and influence in those Colonies, were started by missionaries of this Society; now they are self-supporting and have missions of their own. At present the Society has 331 missionaries working in all parts of the world. The success in the foreign field turned the decrease in Church members in Great Britain into an increase of the Church as a whole. At Wanchai the missionary spirit is very strong. The *Foreign Field* (the monthly missionary publication of the Society) which is sold with an inset containing 6 pages of printed matter recording the doings of the Church and S. & S. Home, has, through the efforts of Mr. Makeham, a circulation of 100 monthly, the majority of these being taken by sailors and soldiers.

The Chairman, Mr. JOUGHIN, then gave an address. He said that before he came to Hongkong he was strongly prejudiced against missionaries, and he had formed his opinions from seafaring men. He had found now that most of these men had scarcely ever been off the seafloor and had picked up and believed any idle stories that were being circulated. How easy it was to come to China and see practically nothing of missionaries and their work. He had been to North China, and wherever he went he tried to find out the truth about missionaries and their work. He had seen enough in Hankow alone to convince him of the good work that was being done. Mr. Joughin then gave incidents he had seen in Dr. Rees' work in Wuchow and that of Dr. Anderson's in Fatsan, which had made him a strong believer in the work. As this was the last occasion he might have to say publicly what he wanted to, he wished to say that the time he has been associated with Wanchai Church has been one of great joy; if it were not for the strength and help he had received at the services here in times of temptation and trial he would have failed. When he and his wife returned to England they would do their best to break down the prejudice that existed in many parts against missionary work and to help forward the work. It was a strong and outspoken utterance and was listened to with close attention and appreciation.

The Rev. WEBB ANDERSON, M.D., who has charge of the large hospital in Fatsan, then addressed the meeting. He said foreign missionary enterprise was vital to the success of any Church. Lord Curzon had written that the selection of a single text from the preaching of the Founder of the Faith as a basis of movement against all other faiths is to be condemned. Dr. Anderson pointed out forcibly that to imagine that missionary work is done simply because Our Lord said: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel," is a mistake. Our defence of our work was not simply that our Lord had given a command. The whole genius of the New Testament is such that the Church established by Jesus Christ is bound to be world-wide in its operations. He said that Church history vindicated the policy of missionary work, for whenever a Church put that work in the front that Church succeeded and its life at home was vigorous. Their object was not to make Methodists, but simply to make devoted followers of Jesus Christ. The work was not easy and to do it they wanted the most brilliant men they could get and men full of passion.

The Doctor then went on to picture to the audience the way the work was done, giving many illustrations, some of them very humorous, but they all shed light on the main truths he brought home to the hearts of his hearers. He

showed the difficulty and discouragement that attended preaching, such as when one has been preaching with all one's heart and soul; sometimes the only result seemed a comment on the preacher, "what tight trousers he wears." He advocated self-supporting hospitals, and passed on to show the need of educational work. China believed to-day that if she was educated she would be saved. Her education was undermining her belief in idols. We have an unparalleled opportunity to influence her at the present time; the danger was that in giving them universities we should simply give them a great power without giving them character—so the need of Christian teaching. A fine address was brought to a close by an earnest appeal for consecration to this great work.

If large congregations, enthusiasm, good collections and good speaking can make a successful anniversary, then Wanchai Church has had a very successful anniversary. The Missionary Society will benefit to the extent of \$170 by these meetings.—Contributed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE EYESORE ON THE PRAYA.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Hongkong, 7th December, 1909.

SIR,—In your editorial comment on last Thursday's debate in Council you truly remarked that the speech of the Honourable the Colonial Secretary promised little improvement in the condition of things on the Praya for some time to come. That being the impression which the speech made upon me, it was only upon the strength of His Excellency the Governor's promise to investigate the matter personally, and to cause to be removed whatever can be removed, that I allowed the motion to drop. Your reference to this suggests that I was too easily satisfied. It may so turn out. But a week is too short a time in which to judge. His Excellency must have time to conduct enquiries. I regarded his undertaking and promise as important, because I believe that independent investigation will show that the debris can be removed at once from every part of the plot in question, except that portion which is leased to the Post Office contractor. The untidy remains of the now-disused tar factory, which will surely never be used again, can be removed at once, and so can the Praya Reclamation Office. The Honourable the Colonial Secretary said so. "This can now be done" were his words. These words taken in conjunction with His Excellency's statement constitute a definite promise. Indefiniteness can only creep in over the interpretation of the word "now." I am sure His Excellency will not sanction any quibbling over that. As regards the alleged necessity for the Post Office contractor remaining where he is until the completion of the new building, would it not be possible to induce him to transfer himself to the open space immediately to the West of the site? I understand that he could procure it for half the amount he pays to the Government as rent for the offending matsheds. If he displays resistance to the idea of moving, can it be because he fears he would be sharply looked after as the tenant of the P. & O. Co., whereas now he feels that he is protected by the inertia of the P.W.D.? I allowed my motion to drop not because I was put off by special pleading, but because my hopes were set on the one thing needful. The one thing needful is a word of command, and His Excellency will earn the gratitude of the whole European community if, after investigation, he can see his way to give it.

Yours truly,

M. STEWART.

The *Chefoo Post* in its Dairen Notes says:—Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Shanghai, will in a few days take over their local interests from the hands of Messrs. Cornabe, Eckford & Co., and intend to open a branch office here next door to Messrs. Butterfield and Swires, under the charge of Mr. E. U. Reid.

SUPPRESSION OF OPIUM.

ASPECTS OF THE QUESTION IN CANTON.

Our Canton correspondent writes:—

The question is often asked if the anti-opium laws in force have been the means of reclaiming habitual opium-smokers from their evil ways and if these laws can in any way be evaded. In the absence of any definite statistics on the point the first part of the question is very difficult to answer. From time to time in the native Press articles appear containing glowing accounts of the transactions of various anti-opium societies and the reports of the burning of large bonfires of smoking requisites, but these should be taken with a degree of caution, as the reports are nearly always exaggerated.

All opium divans in the city are now closed and the shops which are licensed for the retail of the prepared drug are especially forbidden under pain of confiscation of the premises to allow smoking to be carried on in them. Formerly in the brothels, opium was supplied to all customers who desired it, but this practice has also been stopped, and it is now impossible to procure the drug in these places. Before the anti-opium movement began it was also a common thing to be able to obtain pipes in the various gambling houses of the city, but this has also been prohibited, although I am told, but do not guarantee the information, that there are still two or three gaming houses much frequented by officials in the precincts of the Old City, where they can indulge in the drug upstairs while their underlings bet for them downstairs.

There is no doubt, too, that the official ranks have, by the efforts of the Anti-Opium Bureau, been greatly purged of drug-takers, and it is becoming more and more difficult for an official, being an opium habitué, to retain his position. The Tartar General is an enthusiast in the anti-opium cause and has cashiered without mercy many officers addicted to the use of the drug, and the Eight Banner community have also not escaped his drastic measures. Indeed, so keen is this officer in the suppression of this habit that the native papers some time ago reported that he petitioned for permission to start an anti-opium bureau on his own account, in which he might deal with smokers in the army and among the Manchurians more strictly than he is at present able to do.

In spite of all this activity, it is evident to those who live here that an enormous amount of opium smoking still goes on in the homes. All smokers are required to procure a licence, and without this permit they are supposed to be unable to procure the drug. The permit also states the maximum quantity that a person is allowed to purchase in a stated time, and the keepers of the prepared opium shops are supposed to keep these instructions to the letter. It is quite plain that this is a system that readily lends itself to abuse, and it depends too much on the honesty of the shopkeepers, as I have found by actual experience it is possible, moreover, to procure the drug without a licence. There exist shops, unknown, it is to be supposed, to the police, where opium is to be secretly obtained, and a small extra charge is made when the drug is thus purchased, hence it would appear that there is a good deal of what may be termed illicit trading in the drug, and this variety of trade is doubtless remunerative. Smuggling raw opium from the city to villages is by no means unknown, and it is still possible to obtain pipes, lamps, and opium on some of the passenger junks and launches that ply up and down the rivers to the various villages. About two months ago the Anti-Opium Bureau called the attention of the Guild that has the management of these vessels to these abuses, but I have not heard whether or not the law has been more strictly enforced since the notice. In the villages I am also told that restrictive measures are by no means so stringent as those of the city.

There is no doubt that the higher officials are doing their best to put down this habit, and that the Government is in real earnest in its endeavours to win the people from the seduction of the drug, but there is also no doubt that until the ranks of the officials are filled with men of greater probity and sense of public

spirit, opportunities for evading the law will continue to be numerous; and so long as opportunities exist there will be no lack of persons to take advantage of them.

There is one other phase of this question which is not without interest, and that is the largely increased use of alcoholic liquor (mostly brandy and German beer) among the Chinese. Every restaurant and eating-house in the city contains stocks of these liquors and from enquiries I have made among various classes this increase is said to be due to the gradual diminution in the use of opium. The stock of liquor that some of these restaurants carry is surprising, and one I was in the other day contained a very large showcase of brandy, beer and various kinds of liquors. Into the question as to whether it were not better to stick to opium in preference to alcohol there is no need to go, but it would appear that the Chinese, like most other nations, cannot get along without a stimulant of some kind.

I think the present aspect of the case may be fairly summed up as follows:—While the anti-opium laws cannot in any great measure be said to have reformed the hardened and habitual smoker, yet they are making it increasingly difficult for the younger generations to follow in the footsteps of their fathers on this respect, and that provided the laws are faithfully and conscientiously carried out, in the next two or three decades the need for their existence will cease to exist; but this, as above said, depends upon the probity of the official body, and that is counting upon a somewhat unstable factor.

A TRAGEDY AT KULING.

A correspondent sends to the *N.C. Daily News* the following account of a shooting affray at Kuling: A sad tragedy occurred here on Sunday, November 21, resulting in the death, early this morning, of the youthful victim. Two brothers (Alexander and Nicolas Maligan) sons of a well known Russian from Hankow, have been living alone with their servants in the Russian Valley, adjoining Kuling Estate. Some time ago the elder of the two, a young man of twenty, began to entertain suspicions, quite unfounded in fact, that the younger, a boy of eighteen, and the Chinese servants were attempting to poison him. For a month or more and situation had been becoming more and more acute and on Sunday evening matters arrived at a culmination. The elder brother seemed entirely to lose his mental balance, and after a serious altercation he picked up a repeating rifle. His brother warned him not to touch it, saying that rifles were not for madmen and that he saw madness in his eyes. As he began to load the weapon the younger brother left the room. He was, however, quickly followed, and without any further warning the elder brother fired off a succession of shots at him, at least six passing through different parts of his body and riddling the back of the easy chair in which he had thrown himself. One shot passed close under the heart, and another went through his lung. Fearing for their own safety the servants did not send for help until after dark—five hours later. At 10 p.m. the news reached the Kuling Estate office and Mr. Robertson promptly went to render aid. Both young men were at once received into the Kuling hospital, where the utmost was done for the injured man by Dr. Barrie, assisted by Dr. Morgan. It was evident, however, from the beginning that the case was hopeless, and notwithstanding the most skilful treatment and efficient nursing the sufferer passed away in the early hours of this morning. During the greater part of Monday the injured youth retained consciousness, strange to say, and spoke clearly enough of all that had happened, leaving no doubt whatever as to the mental condition of his brother.

The greatest sympathy is felt for the relatives of the two young men.

Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Hedworth Lambton, K.C.B., who is accompanied by his brothers Colonel the Hon. Charles Lambton and Lt.-Colonel the Hon. William Lambton, arrived at Shanghai, last Friday on board H.M.S. *Alacrité*.

COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.—

OPIUM.

Hongkong, December 7th.

Quotations are:—

Malwa New	.....	\$1,300/1,350	per picul.
Malwa Old	.....	\$1,360/1,400	do.
Malwa Older	.....	\$1,410/1,430	do.
Malwa Very Old	.....	\$1,440/1,460	do.
Persian Fine Quality	.....	\$1,100/1,200	do.
Persian Extra Fine	.....	\$1,250/1,300	do.
Patna New	.....	\$1,445	per chest.
Patna Old	.....	\$1,435	do.
Benares New	.....	\$1,470	do.
Benares Old	.....	\$ —	do.

HONGKONG, Dec. 9th.—We beg to continue our advice of the 11th ult., since when the movements in our various Opium markets have been as follows:—

	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.
Stocks on the 25th Nov., 1909—1,020½	1,020½	1,029	578	935
Nov., 28th Imports per <i>Himalaya</i> 46	—	—	—	199
" 29th " " <i>Namsang</i> —	—	755	305	—
Dec., 3rd " " <i>Laisang</i> —	—	280	115	—
" 6th " " <i>Polynesian</i> —	—	100	115	—
	1,060½	3,064	1,113	1,184
Less Exports to Shanghai	—	505	15	—
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight	174	525	164	197

Estimated Stocks this day .. 802½ 2,034 934 987

Bengal.—After the sale the market became active and a fair business was done in Patna at from \$1,390 to \$1,440, and Benares from \$1,420 to \$1,47. At the latter we are quiet at the close.

Malwa.—There has been nothing doing for some time. Quotations are about on the basis of \$1,375/1,400 for 2 years drug.

Persian.—No business.

YARN.

HONGKONG.—Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated 10th ec, states:—A further improvement has been established in our market for Indian yarn, and dealers have, in several instances, advanced on their offers which had previously been refused, and fairly large settlements were effected in the earlier portion of the interval, as noted at foot. No. 20s have again attracted most attention chiefly for the Northern and Tonkin markets and form the bulk of sales, prices showing an appreciation of \$1 to \$3 per bale. Best qualities No. 16s are inquired for at advancing prices, and being in very small supply holders have been able to obtain the values demanded by them. The lower counts are not much in request, but they are firmly held and may be quoted one to two dollars higher. Receipts during the interval are small and with larger offtake stocks show a substantial decrease on last estimate and are now within very narrow limits, the market closing quiet but firm. Bombay continues strong and latest telegrams from that place report purchases by China exporters of over 20,000 bales on the basis of about 6½ for No. 10s, and about 7½ for No. 20s for the Shanghai and Hongkong markets. Sales of the interval aggregate 21 bales, arrivals amount to 4,049 bales, stocks estimated at 11,000 and uncleared yarn in second hands at 30,000 bales. Local Manufacture:—No business is reported. Japane Yarn:—There is no change in the continued quietness of these threads. Raw Cotton:—The market is bare of stock of Indian descriptions. A small importation of 200 bales New superfine Bengals was taken up at \$36½. In China kind a small parcel of 95 bales Thongchows has changed hands at \$38½. Stock, 170 bales. Quotations are Indian Old \$31 to \$35. New, \$34 to \$37, China \$35 to \$39. Exchange on India, after having touched Rs. 128 for T/1 and Rs. 128½ for post, closes to-day at Rs. 131½ and 131½ respectively. On Shanghai 75 and on Japan 86½. The under noted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 4th inst., viz:—Indian:—The demand continues unabated, and about 4,000 bales have been sold at an advance of one to two Taels. Estimated stock, 42,000 bales. Japane:—Are in good demand, and about 5,000 bales have changed hands at 11s. 109½ to 114 for No. 16s and 11s. 116½ to 121½ for No. 20. Close strong. Local:—In very good enquiry, about 9,000 bales changing hands on the basis of 11s. 107½ to 110 for No. 14s and 11s. 104 to 114 for No. 16s.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 10th December.—The prices are the same as when last reported:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$5.00	to	\$5.05
" Round, Good quality ..	5.05	"	5.10
" Long	5.15	"	5.20
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	49.5	"	5.00
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	5.20	"	5.25
" White	5.25	"	5.30
" Fine Cargo	5.40	"	5.45

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai, 3th Dec., 1909, state:—The situation in China certainly falls in with the views expressed above as to the margin of demand which can be postponed to a more convenient season, for there is next to no demand at all from any of our dependent markets, and what enquiry there is here is, for the most part, purely anticipatory, by dealers or merchants with money to invest. The Port of Tientsin is on the verge of closing, and though recently shipments thence have been rather better, there is evidently no great rush to send goods forward, as clearances generally have fallen off. There is some demand for Kiachow in certain specialties, but otherwise it is no better than the other markets. The Manchester market is dull with but little enquiry at the present range of prices. What are considered to be liberal concessions are occasionally made, but prices then remain five or six mace over those ruling here, and it seems to be just a fluke if a transaction goes through successfully. Cotton in Liverpool has not kept very steady, Mid-American at the close being 7.61d, five points down from last week for spot, but seven for February/March option, namely, 7.51d. On the other hand Egyptian has jumped to 12½d. The monthly export figures are not yet in. There is no news from New York, except as regards Cotton, spot price being 14.65 cents and 14.74 cents for March option. The Yarn market is quiet but strong at last week's prices for all spinnings. Raw Cotton is quieter after the covering purchases at the close of last month when Tungechow touched Tls. 27.70. Supplies are coming in with some freedom. It is exceeding difficult to learn of any fresh business, but occasionally stray contracts are shown around, but are not of much value without the accompaniment of a muster. Tls. 100 cases East Block Italians are reported at 13s. 6d. per piece for shipment early next year. We do not think, however, that much can have been done. From stock business is also limited and holders can only sell by accepting prices that are a good deal under replacing cost. A small lot of 8.4 lb. Shirtings under New Year Flower chop was disposed of at Tls. 3.12½, and some 32 inch T-Cloths, Woman Frog ehpp, at Tls. 3.05. In American goods we hear of sale from first hands of 2,000 pieces 30 yard Pepperell Beaver Jeans at Tls. 3.97½. Fairly numerous resales are reported in Drills and Sheetings at rather irregularly prices, but all on the firm side. Generally speaking holders both Foreign and Native, are standing out for higher prices. Again the Auctions have not shown up very well, the Grey and White goods, both yesterday and to-day, being on the easy side on the average, notwithstanding the quantities are still being kept down. This is on account of the lack of orders from the country, the buying being in consequence more less of a speculative nature. Turkey Reds have sold irregularly, only here and there a chop showing any improvement. The Fast Black Italians have not done so well as might have been expected, though certainly during the last two months the supply has kept pace with the off-take. Venetians are not doing at all well, especially the coloured variety, which seem to be a drag on the market. Though without any change of importance, Woollens show a weaker tendency.

HONGKONG PRICES CURRENT.

HONGKONG, 10th December, 1909.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6lbs. piece	\$2.00	to	\$2.10
7 lbs.	2.50	to	2.60
8.4 lbs.	3.10	to	4.35
10 lbs.	4.30	to	6.00
White Shirtings—54/56 read ..	3.00	to	3.30
58/60 ..	3.40	to	5.60
64/66 ..	6.10	to	8.10
Fine	5.60	to	10.10
Book-folds ..	3.60	to	6.60
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.70	to	2.0
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y ..	2.30	to	2.60
7 lbs.	2.70	to	3.40
6 lbs. "Mexicans," ..	—	—	—
7 lbs.	4.05	to	4.40
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.) ..	3.30	to	4.55
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ ..	5.00	to	6.35
to 14 lbs. }			

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 7 lbs. per piece	1.90	to	4.75
Brocades—Dyed	0.12½	to	0.16
Chinese—Assorted	0.09	to	0.30
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.26	to	0.55
Velveteens—18 in.	0.25	to	0.28
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk per dozen	0.70	to	1.50

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.70	to	2.00
German	2.00	—	—
Habit, Medium & Broad Cloths ..	1.25	to	3.00
Long Hls—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs. piece	7.80	to	9.40
Assorted	7.90	to	9.40
Camlets—Assorted	—	—	—

WHEATEN FLOUR—

Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches } ..	14.00	to	21.00
Assorted			
Orleans—Plain	9.00	to	12.00
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	0.60	to	1.50

RAW COTTON—

Bombay	picul	\$31.00	to	\$35.00
Bengal (New), Rangoon and Dacca		33.50	to	37.00
Shanghai and Japanese ..		34.00	to	38.00
Tungechow and Ningpo ..		34.00	to	38.00

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	picul	\$ 4.15
Square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.) ..		4.10
Swedish Bar		4.20
Small Round Rod		4.60
Hoop, 3 to 11½ in.		5.60
Wire, 16/25 oz.		9.50
Old Wire Rope		3.00
Lead—L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..		—
Australian		9.60
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/28 oz.		40.50
Vivian's, 16/32 oz.		40.50
Elliot's, 16/28 oz.		40.50
Tin		91.00
Tin-Plates	box	7.50
Steel	cwt. case	—

MISCELLANEOUS—

Quicksilver	picul	188.00
Window Glass	box	5.40
Kerosene Oil	case	—
Saltpetre, No. 1	picul	\$11.90 to 12.40
Do. No. 2		11.20 to 11.80
Do. No. 3		9.50 to 10.00
Dayton, per bag of 50 lbs.	gross	\$2.68
Crescent		2.56
Orient		2.46
Crown Bear		2.70
Warrior		3.25
Choice		2.67
White Lily		2.67
White Fawn		2.66
Morjon		2.67
Cow		2.67

EXPORTS:—

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, 1st December.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

Cowhides, best selected	Tls.	45.00
Do. seconds		41.00
Buffalo hides, best selected		25.75
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour,		—
Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each ..		—
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi		9.90
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu ..		9.00
Green China Grass, Szechuan		—
Jute		—
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow ..		12.00
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng		—
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu		—
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu		11.50
Animal Tallow		11.50
Gallnuts, usual shape		15.60
Gallnuts, plum do.		18.00
Tobacco Tin chow		—
Tobacco, Wungkong		—
Black Bristles,		—
Feathers, grey and/or white Wild Duck ..		—
Turmeric		—
Sesamum Seed		5.30
Broad Beans		2.07
White Peas		2.10
Sesamum Seed Oil		—
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil		9.00
Wood Oil		—
Tea Oil		—

Per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, sailed on the 7th December, 1909. For Lyons—328 bales raw silk. For Marseilles—120 bales raw silk, 573 rolls matings, 280 rolls bamboo, 100 cases cassia, 27 cases hats, 14 pkgs. human hair, 10 cases feathers, 4 cases silk goods, 10 cases ylang ylang, 4 cases bristles. For Havre—2 camphor wood boxes, 1 case hemp.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 10th December.—The above market is at a standstill, and prices remain as last quoted.

FREIGHT.

Hankow, 1st Dec.—Per Conference Steamers to London and Northern Continental ports, 47/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre, 47/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), General Cargo, 32/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload; Tea G. \$1.50 cents per lb gross; less than carload Tea G. \$1.75 cents per lb gross, plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 2.50 per ton, weight or measurement.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS

HONGKONG, 10th December, 1909.—The market still continued dull and with the exceptions of Banks, Unions, North Chinas, and China Fires rates generally else lower. Exchange on London T/T closes at 1/9 3/16 and on Shanghai a 75.

BANKS.—Sales of Hongkong and Shanghai have taken place during the week at 9.5 and 997½, the market closing steady at the latter rate. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have further improved to 890 with buyers, after sales at that and at 885 North Chinas are in request at the improved rate of 115. Canton's continue quiet and neglected with sellers at 155, and reported sales at 150.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao's show a slight improvement with buyers at 30½. Indos have changed hands at 6 cash and at 62 for March. Shells have declined in London to 67/6. Other stocks under this heading call for no remarks.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been negotiated at 159 and 160, closing with sellers at the latter rate. Luzon remain unchanged.

MINING.—Langkats have been a very unsteady market, the rate backing and filling between 730 and 780, and closing at the latter rate. Other stocks under this heading remain unchanged.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been the medium of a small business at 51 and 52, the market closing with sellers at 52. Kowloon Wharfs have ruled weaker and after sales at 62 close with sellers at 61½. Shanghai Docks close rather higher at 77, and Hongkew Wharfs after touching 124 close again at 129.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have declined with sales to 102, buyers, however, prevail at the close. West Points have changed hands at 44, and close steady at that rate. Hotels are still enquired for at 75 and 43½, with only very small sales to report. Humphreys have been placed at the reduced rate of 8.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong's have improved to 6½ with sales. Ewes and Soy Chees are wired from the North at 133 and 440, respectively. Internationals 75, ex div. Laou Kung Mows at 105 are quoted according to the last Shanghai circulars.

RUBBERS.—A quiet week, with a gradual fall in prices, in sympathy with a weak London market. The following business has been transacted: Kamunings at 3/ prem., Cas lefields at 51/3 52/6, and finally at 50/; Ledburys at 48/9, Pajams at 7½ and 7 80, Pegohs at 22.60, Linggis at 24/6 and 24/ and Balgownies at 67½ and 70.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Borrees have declined to 12½ without business. China Provs., Cements, and Watson's have changed hands at quotations in small lots. Other stocks under this heading continue weak and neglected and without business.

Quotations are as follows:—

Quotations are as follows:—

STOCKS	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$997½
National B. of China	£6	£91.10.-
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	12/6d.	\$10, buyers
China-Borneo Co.....	\$12	\$12½, sellers
China Light & P. Co....	\$10	\$6, sal. & buy.
China Provident	\$10	\$9.50, sales
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo Cotton S. & W.	Tls. 50	Tls. 133
Hongkong C. S. Co.	\$10	\$6½, les
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 90
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 10	Tls. 111
Soychee	Tls. 50	Tls. 430
Dairy Farm Co.....	\$6	\$16½, sellers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$61½, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$52, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$54	\$9, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 77
S'hai & H. Wharf....	Tls. 100	Tls. 129
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$11, s llers
G. Island Cement Co	\$10	\$7½, sale- & sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas....	\$10	\$210, buyers
Hongkong Electric....	\$10	\$20, sellers
Hongkong Hotel Co. }	\$50	\$75, buyers
Hongkong Ice Co.....	\$25	\$43½, buyers
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$25	\$18½, s- lers
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$10	\$23, sellers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$155, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$117½, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$92, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$375, sellers
North China	\$20	Tls. 115, buyers
Union	\$100	\$890, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$230
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$102, sales & buy.
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	8, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
Shanghai Land.....	Tls. 50	Tls. 120
West Point Building	\$50	\$44, sales
Mining—		
S. F. des C. du T'kin	Fr. 250	\$625, buyers
Raub	18/10d.	\$7½, sellers
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd	\$10	\$13½, se lers
Philippine Co., Ltd....	\$1	1.30 sellers
Philippine Co., Ltd....	\$10	9½, buyers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$160, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$21
Robinson Piano Co. ...	\$50	\$50, sellers
Steamship Companies—		
China and Manila....	\$25	\$8, sellers
Douglas Steamship...	\$50	\$3, sellers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$30½, buyers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	\$25	\$41, sales & buy.
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	\$9, sales & buy.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$26, buyers
Star Ferry	\$5	\$14½, sellers
South China M. Post...	\$25	\$24, buyers
Steam Laundry Co....	\$5	\$5½, sellers
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M & Co....	\$10	\$12
Wm. Powell, Ltd....	\$7	\$3, sellers
Watkins, Ltd.....	\$10	5, sellers
Watson & Co., A.S.	\$10	\$7½, sellers
Weissmann, Ltd.....	\$10	10, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$12½, sellers
Union Waterboat Co....	\$10	\$300
Rubbers—		
Balgownies	—	\$70 (Sts.)
Pegohs	—	22.00 (ts.)
Ragallas	—	28 (Sts.)
Anglo-Malays	—	14/3
Castlefields, fully p.	—	51, sellers
Consolidated Malays	—	£1.10
D mansaras	—	£4-0-0
H'lands & L'lands....	—	60/-
Kamunings	—	3/- rem.
Kuala Lumpur.....	—	90/-
Ledbury's	—	£48/9, sellers
Linagis	—	24/6, sellers
Sapongs	—	23/6, sellers
Shelfors	—	31/-
Sungei-Kapars	—	£72/-

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

2nd Decembe, 1909.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,025
National of China...	£6	\$65, buyers
Russo-Chinese	R187½	Tls. 125
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'tn	\$100	\$847½, buyers
North-China	£5	Tls. 109, buyers
Yangtze Assocn.	\$60	\$225, sales
Canton	\$50	\$162½, sales
Hongkong Fire.....	\$50	\$375, sellers
China Fire.....	\$20	\$115, sellers
Shipping:—		
Indo-China { pref. }	£5	Tls. 43, sellers
Shell Trans. { ord }	£1	£3.7 9
& Trading { pref. }	£10	£9.10.0
S'hai Tug & pref. }	T50	Tls. 43, sales
Lighter ... { ord }	T50	Tls. 53, sellers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 45
Kochien Transport-	T50	Tls. 48½, sales
ation & To Boat		
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Eng...	T100	Tls. 75, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$53, sellers
S. & H'kew Wharf...	T100	Tls. 128, sales
H. K'loon W. & G....	\$50	\$62½, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 200, sellers
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation...	T50	Tls. 350
China Refining.....	\$100	\$158, buyers
Mining:—		
Raub Australian ...	£1	Tls. \$7½, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	£1	Tls. 19½
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment	T50	Tls. 120, sales
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$103, sales
Humphreys' Estate	T10	\$9, sellers
Weiheiwai	T20	Tls. 9
China	T50	Tls. 50
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 106, sales
Plantations:—		
Kalumpung Rubber	T50	Tls. 235, sales
Chempedak .....	...	Tls. 13½, buyers
S. R'ber Estates	T100	Tls. 340, sellers
T. R. & T. Estate Co.	£1	Tls. 17½
Dominion Rubbers..	T6	Tls. 14, sales
Shanghai - Sumatra		
Tobacco	T20	Tls. 110, buyers
Cottons, etc:—		
Ewo.....	T50	Tls. 128 buyers
Internationals	T75	Tls. 75, buyers
Laou Kung Mow ...	T100	Tls. 105, sellers
Soy Chees	T50	Tls. 440
H.C.S.W.D.Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$6, sales
Shanghai Cotton ...	T50	Tls. 7½, sellers
Eastern Fibre	£10	Tls. 10
Industrial:—		
Maatschappij, &c.,	Gs. 100	Tls. 725, buyers
in Langkat.....	T50	Tls. 107½, sales
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 52½
Major Brothers.....	T50	Tls. 15
Shanghai Ice.....	T25	Tls. 60, sales
China Flour Mill...	T50	Tls. 35, buyers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	\$7½, sales
Green Is. Cement....	\$10	Tls. 435, sales
S'hai Waterworks...	£2	\$82½, sales
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	\$100	
A. Butler Cement...		
Tile Works	T50	Tls. 23½, sales
Shanghai Electric		
Construction.....	£10	£6.0.0-sel.
China Im. & Ex.		
Lumber	T100	Tls. 75
Shanghai Electric &		
Asbestos	\$25	20½, sellers
China Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50
Stores:—		
Hall & Holtz.....	\$20	\$24, buyers
A. Llewellyn.....	\$60	\$65
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Central On inary ...	\$15	\$17, sellers
Central Founders ...	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co....	\$50	\$40
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$26, buyers
Lane, Crawford & Co.	\$100	\$165, sales
Dunning & Co.	\$50	\$35
Hotels:—		
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$20, sellers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$75
Hotel des colonies	T12.50	Tls. 5½
Miscellaneous:—		
S'hai Horse Bazar...	T50	Tls. 55
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 55, buyers
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 66½
Dallas Horse Re-		
pository	T50	Tls. 25

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their Share Report for the week ending December 2nd state—Transactions have been rather more numerous during the past week, especially on the 2nd and 3rd, when a considerable number of Langkats changed hands at increased prices. A steady rise in Almas has taken place and Rubbers on the whole remain firm. The T. T. rate on London is 2/3½. Banks.—No business reported. Insurance.—No business reported. Sugars.—Peraks changed hands on the 26th at Tls. 370 for December. Mining.—No business. Docks & Wharves.—Shanghai & Hongkew Wharves. Business was done on November 30 at Tls. 127 December and on the 2nd instant at Tls. 131½-132 March. No other business under this heading. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas. On the 2nd instant at Tls. 44 for March. Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co. at Tls. 43 cash for ord. shares. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment Co. On the 29th ultimo at Tls. 120. Anglo-French Lands. On the 2nd instant at Tls. 106. Plantations.—Almas. On the 27th and 30th at Tls. 11 and Tls. 11½. On the 2nd at Tls. 12 for cash. Chempedaks. On the 27th and 29th at Tls. 13, on the 30th and 2nd instant at Tls. 13½ for cash. Kneewoods. On the 30th, 1st and 3rd at Tls. 16 and Tls. 16½. Dominions. On the 30th, and 1st at Tls. 14½ and on the 2nd at Tls. 14. Kalumpungs. On the 30th at Tls. 240 December and on the 2nd at Tls. 235 for cash. Ayer Tawhas. On the 30th at Tls. 8 for cash. Shanghai Sumatras. On the 27th at Tls. 108. Cottons.—Ewos. On the 26th at Tls. 143½ for December, on the 30th and 1st at Tls. 129 December ex Div. On the 1st at Tls. 131-130 March, and on the 2nd at Tls. 128 cash and Tls. 129-130 December. Industrial.—China Flours. On the 26th, 29th and 2nd instant at Tls. 60 cash. On the 27th at Tls. 61 for December. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. On the 26th at Tls. 695 December, on the 27th at Tls. 695 cash, on the 29th at Tls. 690-695 cash and Tls. 700-702½ for December, on the 1st at Tls. 702½ December and Tls. 735 for March. On the 2nd at Tls. 700 cash and Tls. 717½, 725, 727½, 730, 732½ December. Tls. 735, 740, 742½, 747½, 750 for March. No business in other Stocks.

EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, December 10th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9 3/4
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9 1/4
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight ...	1/9 1/2
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight...	1/9 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight ...	1/9 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9 1/4
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	223
Credits 4 months' sight	227
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	181
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	43 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	44 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	131 1/2
Bank, on demand	131 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	131 1/2
Bank on demand	131 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	75
Private, 30 days' sight ...	75 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	86 1/2
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	87 1/2
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	75 1/2
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	106 1/2
ON HONGKONG.—	
On demand	7 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	7 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	86 1/2
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.30
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$59.00
BAR SILVER per oz	23 1/2

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 10th December.—There is more demand for tonnage during the period under review, and rates are firmer. From Saigon to Hongkong, 14½ cents offering; to Philippines, 22 cents last; to North Coast Java, 20 cents last; to Singapore, 15 cents offering. From North Coast Java to Hongkong, 20 cents. From Tairen to Canton, 2 fixtures at 25 cents and 26 cents, respectively. Coal freights are firm. From Moji to this, \$2.00 per ton. Wakamatsu to Hongkong, \$2.10; Canton, \$2.60 last. From Hongkong to Canton, \$1.65; Hongkong, \$1.50. From Taintau to Hongkong, \$2.75 per ton for salt.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

December:—

ARRIVALS.

- 4, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 4, Hanyang, British str., from Chinkiang.
- 4, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
- 4, Nippon, Swedish str., from Singapore.
- 4, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
- 4, Sicilia, British str., from London.
- 4, Simongan, Dutch str., from Pulo Laut.
- 5, Cardiganshire, British str., from London.
- 5, Chinhua, British str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 5, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
- 5, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Sithonia, Ger. str., from Manila.
- 5, Tango Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
- 6, Clara Jeben, German str., from Tsingtau.
- 6, Dagny, Nor. str., from Kwong Yuen.
- 6, Dakotah, British str., from San Francisco.
- 6, Empire, British str., from Kobe.
- 6, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Yokohama.
- 6, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
- 6, Perlak, Dutch str., from Singapore.
- 6, Polynesian, French str., from Marseilles.
- 6, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
- 6, Sado Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
- 6, Siberia, Am. str., from San Francisco.
- 6, Sashu Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
- 6, Telemachus, Br. str., from Saigon.
- 6, Wakamatsu M., Jap. str., from Wakamatsu.
- 6, Yunnan, British str., from Daluy.
- 7, Aymeric, British str., from Vancouver.
- 7, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
- 7, Lowther Castle, Br. str., from Keelung.
- 7, Mandasan Maru, Jap. str., from Miike.
- 7, Marie, German str., from Hongkong.
- 7, Samsen, German str., from Bangkok.
- 8, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
- 8, Chenan, British str., from Shanghai.
- 8, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
- 8, Fukura Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
- 8, Haitan, Brit. str., from Swatow.
- 8, Kiang Ching, Chinese str., from C'kiang.
- 8, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 8, Shantung, British str., from Samarang.
- 8, Suisang, British str., from Ghinwantao.
- 8, Toonan, Chinese str., from Chefoo.
- 8, Wingsang, British str., from Tachingho.
- 8, Yachow, Br. str., from Weihaiwei.
- 9, Awa Maru, Jap. str., from London.
- 9, Delta, British str., from Bombay.
- 9, E. of Japan, Br. str., from Vancouver.
- 9, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
- 9, Helene, Ger. str., from Swatow.
- 9, Shansi, British str., from Hsinho.
- 9, Socotra, British str., from London.
- 9, Tacoma Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.

December:— DEPARTURES.

- 4, E. of India, British str., for Vancouver.
- 4, Glenturret, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Kiang Ping, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
- 4, Moyori Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
- 4, Omuro Maru, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
- 4, Signal, German str., for Swatow.
- 4, Taikosan Maru, Japanese str., for Miike.
- 4, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
- 5, Anhui, British str., for Shanghai.
- 5, Castor, British str., for Tsingtau.
- 5, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 5, Fri, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
- 5, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 5, Helene, German str., for Swatow.
- 5, Kashing, British str., for Swatow.
- 5, Laertes, British str., for Saigon.
- 5, Singan, British str., for Haiphong.
- 5, Victoria, Swedish str., for Haiphong.

- 6, Sicilia, British str., for Shanghai.
- 6, Polynesian, French str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Chihli, British str., for Hongkong.
- 7, Drufar, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 7, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., for Europe, &c.
- 7, Fooksang, British str., for Singapore.
- 7, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
- 7, Hangchow, British str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Locksunt, German str., for Hoihow.
- 7, Maefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Nippon, Swedish str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Prominent, Norwegian str., for Daluy.
- 7, Rajaburi, German str., for Swatow.
- 7, Shinano Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Sithonia, German str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Tean, British str., for Manila.
- 7, Tjiliwong, Dutch str., for Batavia.
- 8, Aymeric, British str., for Manila.
- 8, Cardiganshire, British str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Cheongshing, British str., for Weihaiwei.
- 8, Empire, British str., for Australia.
- 8, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 8, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
- 8, Ithaka, German str., for Hongkong.
- 8, Kwangse, British str., for Amoy.
- 8, Sado Maru, Japanese str., for Singapore.
- 8, Simongan, Dutch str., for Saigon.
- 8, Soshu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 8, Tango Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
- 9, Bourbon, British str., for Saigon.
- 9, Dagny, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
- 9, L. Castle, British str., for Singapore.
- 9, Pitsanulok, German str., for Bangkok.
- 9, Shinkoki Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
- 9, Yatshing, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Loongsang* from Manila, Mr J. J. Hunt.
 Per *Tacoma Maru*, from Shanghai Mr C. W. Collier.
 Per *Pitsanulok*, from Bangkok, &c., Mr James Gill.
 Per *Cardiganshire*, from London, &c., Messrs Gallt and Dunmon.
 Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Messrs Ramey Murya, J. Isaac and Hansan.
 Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Mrs Sellawold, Mrs Lement Wise, Col. Lement and Mr Hyde.
 Per *Chinhua*, from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs Emanuel and two children, Messrs Markham and Gilette.
 Per *Tango Maru*, from Japan, Mr and Mrs H. T. Bosman, Mr and Mrs F. W. Holloway, Miss and Master Bosman.
 Per *Empire*, from Australia, &c., Mr and Mrs Metcalf, Mrs Newall, Misses Hefferman, Messrs T. W. Rowe, J. Raff, H. Spensley, E. Murray, E. W. Tickle, A. White, and McLough.
 Per *Awa Maru*, from London, &c., Mr and Mrs I. Mason and child, Mrs Neil, Mrs Pyne and 2 children, Misses Silva, L. Silva and F. Silva, Messrs E. Power, J. R. Reid, Thomson and D. Lord.
 Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr R. J. Bertrand; from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs Bode, Mrs A. Dodge and servant, Mrs Mary, Mrs Rosen, Messrs G. Dodge, R. J. Resaull and servant, Joschald and Ruchwayer.
 Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs J. L. Davis, Mrs J. S. Waddington and child, Mrs M. Morecraft, Miss P. Scattergood, Lt. G. W. Dearmont, Lt. A. J. Wonde, Messrs P. A. Meyer, F. K. Semützler, F. P. Thompson, E. Boming, H. J. Betterby, C. Freynet.
 Per *Polynesian*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Madame Saussine and infant, Messrs Thomas and Achille Bardot; from Colombo, Mr and Mrs Johnson; from Singapore, Mr and Mrs Elmore, Mr and Mrs Davis, Messrs Hope, Bennetta, Berridge, Ibsen, Ibsen, Goldmich, Bedford, Zeno, Williams, Soinelen and Stephenson; from Saigon, Mr and Mrs MacDonald and baby.
 Per *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong, from Vancouver, B.C., Mrs C. E. Hamblen, Mrs J. S. Eddy, Miss Bain, Lt. Eng. F. W. Bromley, R.N., and Mr J. Bain; from Yokohama, Mr and Mrs H. Gummer; from Kobe, Lord and Lady Brooke and maid, Mr and Mrs S. E. Lees, Mrs H. Imbach, Mrs E. C. Hindmarsh, Miss E. M. Kains, Miss O. W. Lees and Mr G. S. E. Lees; from Shanghai, Mrs W. Max Muller and servant, Misses N. Huggins and F. Luther, Messrs W. W. Wentworth, Max Klett and H. R. Poulson.

Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Mrs J. M. Forbes.
 Per *Sado Maru*, from Shanghai, Messrs Masao Takishi, Takigawa Benzo, Matsui Takusaburo, Sadatome Goro, Takahashi Koki, T. Coleman and W. Barrett.

Per *Delta*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. Mrs and Miss Garrod, Master and infant, Miss L. Zollis, Messrs D. Mason, Forsyth and H. J. Campbell; from Marseilles, Miss Houlder; from Brindisi, Dr. D. H. Vail and Mr Arleigh; from Singapore, Messrs J. C. G. Hussey, H. D. Campbell and S. A. Ranson; from Penang, Miss Kang, Messrs N. Davie and Y. W. Kang.

Per *Sicilia*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr and Mrs Kent and child, Mr and Mrs Maddicks and 2 children, Mr and Mrs Merbey and 2 infants, Mr and Mrs Hewlitt, Mr and Mrs Alf and infant, Mrs Hogg and 2 infants, Mrs Simpson and 3 children, Mrs Smith, child and 2 infants, Mrs Cooke, Misses Commmin, Weightman, Bryan Brown and Pinck, Rev. J. L. Bacon, Messrs Wood, R. Hunter, J. Fisher and F. McCarthy; from Singapore, Messrs R. Kindersley and B. H. Winder.

DEPARTED.

Per *Shinano Maru*, for Seattle, Messrs Th. Rehm, N. Morecraft, Isidro Martinier, E. H. Burch, W. M. Johnson, A. Thomson, Hirsch, Achiwoto and Abdoolally.

Per *Empress of India*, for Shanghai, &c., Mr and Mrs C. Treppenhuer, Mrs Melasco and family, H.E. Kao Ehn Kim, Messrs J. S. Arwine, S. Y. Ksu, J. M. Sutor, T. Mero, Brande, Shackleton, Anderson, Sparkes, Lambe and Averill.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Marseilles, &c., Mr and Mrs Boissones, Mr and Mrs H.E. Y. Wong, Mrs Van Port, Mrs Pineau, Rev. B. Bertrand, Rev. G. Gueneau, Captain Halle, Messrs M. Mngabon, de Monfort, Gayol, Vinokousff, Mariotti, Leroux, Cohon, Matsutaro, Okano, Renoux, Giraud, G. Behrens, E. Lohrens, M. M. Lorab and Osburn.

Per *Polynesian*, for Shanghai, &c., Mr and Mrs Meynard, Mr and Mrs Talanot, Mr and Mrs Bouricot, Mr and Mrs Lipscher, Mr and Mrs Augensen, Mrs Poppa, Messrs Eynard, T. Borotherton, Fou Yote, Vittorio, A. Wolfson, C. Haggenmuller, A. Roéz, W. Brochile, G. Loverdine, Tuan, Duerangey, Von Andel, J. Reboul, Renoneleau and Lelievre.

Per *Zafiro*, for Manila, Mr and Mrs Birkey, Rev. and Mrs Rogers, Mr and Master Luckey, Mrs and Miss Miller, Mrs Dureau and 2 children, Mrs Mooran, Mrs Fopano, Misses Caster Campbell, A. Miller, Gordon and Starbird, Rev. S. Sancho, Rev. Alonso, Capt. Starbird, Messrs E. C. Bares, J. Kennedy, F. H. Wood, G. M. Reynolds, M. W. Flies, B. L. Burdett and Chis. Reynolds.

Per *Goeben*, for Shanghai, Mr and Mrs John Cramartz, Rev. J. D. Lanwaert, Miss A. Chin and party, Messrs H. Tiefenbacher, F. Main, F. Ruber, T. Young, L. Marques Silva, Koteck, E. Schramm and L. Schjelderup; for Nagasaki, Messrs Lipu, Ojuki, Otura, E. Myeharo and Kobayashi; for Kobe, Mr Jusso; for Yokohama, Messrs E. Lenz, K. Greiner and K. Shikawa.

Per *Sado Maru*, for London, Mr and Mrs Cabbold, Mr and Mrs F. W. Holloway, Rev. and Mrs Chappell and 2 children, Capt. E. Krano, Messrs Saito Keyotaka, Enami Risaburo, Masas Kakichji, Migita Hansturo, Kita Hiyoaro, D. Warakora, F. H. Gile, Kodama Iomefusa, Watanabe Tsusaye, Watanabe Ren-taro, Pakawa Sentaro, Felki, Oda Koroku, I. Naftaly, David Dickson, W. Murfitt and H. Fletcher.

Per *Prinz Waldemar*, for Manila, Mr and Mrs F. F. Chuck, Mr and Mrs B. F. Smith, Dr. and Mrs E. J. Tapply, Mrs E. v. Landeghem, Mrs M. Luthermann, Misses A. Harris, J. Peck, A. Peck, H. Peck, F. Sibley, Bergan, Sanderson, Kelly and Peet, Colonel W. M. Redpath, Judge C. B. Dumring, Messrs G. H. Corse, W. M. Brown, Fleming, H. L. Smith, Robt. Arndt, E. Reither, B. Sommer and P. Johnson; for New Guinea, Messrs J. Cheshire, A. E. Bradley, R. Lever, H. Lever, A. Votz, J. Handenreuter and B. Schreger; for Sydney, Mr and Mrs C. E. Grant, Mr and Mrs G. Gerdes, Miss H. Roth and Mr H. C. Rocke.

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